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RNA-ASSOCIATED PROTEINS

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TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates to nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of RNA-associated proteins and to the use of these sequences in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cell proliferative, immune/inflammatory, and reproductive disorders.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Ribonucleic acid (RNA) is a linear single-stranded polymer of four ribonucleotides, ATP, CTP, UTP, and GTP. In most organisms, RNA is transcribed as a copy of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), the genetic material of the organism. RNA copies of the genetic material encode proteins or serve various structural, catalytic, or regulatory roles in organisms. RNA is classified according to its cellular localization and function. Messenger RNAs (mRNAs) encode polypeptides. Ribosomal RNAs (rRNAs) are structural RNAs that are assembled, along with ribosomal proteins, into ribosomes, which are cytoplasmic particles that function in the translation of mRNA into polypeptides. Transfer RNAs (tRNAs) are cytosolic adaptor molecules that function in mRNA translation by recognizing both an mRNA codon and the amino acid that matches that codon. Heterogeneous nuclear RNAs (hnRNAs) include mRNA precursors and other nuclear RNAs of various sizes. Small nuclear RNAs (snRNAs) are a part of the nuclear spliceosome complex that removes intervening, non-coding sequences (introns) and rejoins exons in pre-mRNAs.

RNA-binding proteins are essential for a wide variety of cellular and developmental functions. They participate in RNA processing, editing, transport, localization, stabilization, and the posttranscriptional control of mRNAs. They also provide the protein component of ribosomal RNA, transfer RNA, and other ribonuclear proteins. The RNA binding activity of these proteins is mediated by specific RNA-binding domains contained within the proteins. A variety of conserved RNA binding motifs have been defined through comparisons of amino acid homologies and structural similarities within these RNA-binding domains. These motifs include the RNP motif, an arginine-rich motif, the zinc-finger motif, the Y-box, the KH motif, and the double-stranded RNA-binding domain (dsRBD), all of which are characterized by specific consensus sequences (Burd, C. G. and Dreyfuss, G. (1994) Science 265:615 - 621).

RNA Processing

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Various proteins are necessary for processing of transcribed RNAs in the nucleus. Pre-mRNA processing steps include capping at the 5' end with methylguanosine, polyadenylating the 3' end, and splicing to remove introns. The spliceosomal complex is comprised of five small

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nuclear ribonucleoprotein particles (snRNPs) designated U1, U2, U4, U5, and U6. Each snRNP contains a single species of snRNA and about ten proteins. The RNA components of some snRNPs recognize and base-pair with intron consensus sequences. The protein components mediate spliceosome assembly and the splicing reaction. Autoantibodies to snRNP proteins are found in the blood of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (Stryer, L. (1995) Biochemistry W.H. Freeman and Company, New York NY, p. 863).

Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoproteins (hnRNPs) have roles in functions that include splicing, exporting of the mature RNAs to the cytoplasm, and mRNA translation (Biamonti, G. et al. (1998) Clin. Exp. Rheumatol. 16:317-326). Some examples of hnRNPs include the yeast proteins Hrp1p, involved in cleavage and polyadenylation at the 3' end of the RNA; Cbp80p, involved in capping the 5' end of the RNA; and Npl3p, a homolog of mammalian hnRNP A1, involved in export of mRNA from the nucleus (Shen, E.C. et al. (1998) Genes Dev. 12:679-691). A common feature of all of these RNA-binding proteins is a glycine-rich region in the form of RGG repeats. HnRNPs have been shown to be important targets of the autoimmune response in rheumatic diseases (Biamonti et al., supra).

An important means of regulating the function of hnRNPs is by methylation of arginine residues. The hnRNPs contain 65% of the methylated arginine residues in the cell nucleus. Methylation occurs within the RGG domain. Methylated arginine residues are also found in non-hnRNP RNA-binding proteins, all of which contain RGG repeats. The yeast enzyme, Hmt1p, is responsible for methylation of Npl3p and Hrp1p. In HMT1 null mutants, methylation of these proteins is not detectable, and poly(A⁺)RNA accumulates in the nucleus. A molecular model predicts that Cbp80, Npl3p, and Hrp1p form a complex with mRNA to package the RNA for export from the nucleus, and that methylation plays a role in the efficiency of this packaging. Formation of this export complex is crucial for efficient exit of mRNA out of the nucleus. (Shen, supra.) A human homolog of Hmt1p, HRMT1L2, has been identified and is required for methylation of arginine residues in the RGG repeats of hnRNP A1. (Scott, H.S. et al. (1998) Genomics 48:330-340.) Also, viral RNA-binding proteins, such as the herpes simplex virus ICP27 protein, are known to be arginine-methylated. This exploitation of the cellular export machinery may facilitate maturation of viral RNAs. (Shen, supra.)

Human myxoid liposarcomas have been shown to contain a chromosomal translocation [(t12;16)(q13;p11)] wherein the gene coding for an inhibitory, growth arrest-associated transcription factor, known as CHOP (C/EBP homologous protein), is fused to the gene for TLS (translocated in liposarcoma), a nuclear RNA-binding protein that contains an RNP motif. TLS has been shown to function as an RNA chaperone, shuttling RNA into and out of the nucleus

(Zinszner, H. et al. (1997) J. Cell Sci. 110:1741-1450). The fusion of TLS with CHOP serves to convert a transcription factor involved in growth arrest into one associated with abnormal cell proliferation (Croizat, A. et al. (1993) Nature 363:640-644). Subsequent work has shown that TLS and its homologs (e.g., EWS, associated with Ewing's sarcoma) comprise the N-terminal portion of a number of fusion oncoproteins associated with sarcomas as well as with certain human acute myeloid leukemias (AMLs), secondary AMLs associated with myelodysplastic syndrome, and certain chronic myeloid leukemias (Aman, P. et al. (1996) Genomics 37:1-8; Zinszner, H. et al. (1997) Oncogene 14:451-461; Pereira, D.S. et al. (1998) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 95:8239-8244).

Many snRNP and hnRNP proteins are characterized by an RNA recognition motif (RRM) (Birney, E. et al. (1993) Nucleic Acids Res. 21:5803-5816). The RRM is about 80 amino acids in length and forms four β -strands and two α -helices arranged in an α/β sandwich. The RRM contains a core RNP-1 octapeptide motif along with surrounding conserved sequences. In addition to snRNP proteins, examples of RNA-binding proteins which contain the above motifs include heteronuclear ribonucleoproteins which stabilize nascent RNA and factors which regulate alternative splicing. Alternative splicing factors include developmentally regulated proteins, specific examples of which have been identified in lower eukaryotes such as Drosophila melanogaster and Caenorhabditis elegans. These proteins play key roles in developmental processes such as pattern formation and sex determination, respectively (Hodgkin, J. et al. (1994) Development 120:3681-3689).

RNA Stability and Degradation

RNA helicases alter and regulate RNA conformation and secondary structure by using energy derived from ATP hydrolysis to destabilize and unwind RNA duplexes. The most well-characterized and ubiquitous family of RNA helicases is the "DEAD-box family," so named for the conserved B-type ATP-binding motif which is diagnostic of proteins in this family. Over 40 DEAD-box helicases have been identified in organisms as diverse as bacteria, insects, yeast, amphibians, mammals, and plants. DEAD-box helicases function in various processes such as translation initiation, splicing, ribosome assembly, and RNA editing, transport, and stability. Some DEAD-box helicases play tissue- and stage-specific roles in spermatogenesis and embryogenesis. All DEAD-box helicases contain several conserved sequence motifs within about 420 amino acids. These motifs include an A-type ATP binding motif, the DEAD-box/B-type ATP-binding motif, a serine/arginine/threonine tripeptide of unknown function, and a C-terminal glycine-rich motif with a possible role in substrate binding and unwinding. In addition, alignment of divergent DEAD-box helicase sequences has shown that 37 amino acid residues are identical

among these sequences, suggesting that conservation of these residues is important for helicase function. (Reviewed in Linder, P. et al. (1989) *Nature* 337:121-122.) Overexpression of the DEAD-box 1 protein (DDX1) may play a role in the progression of neuroblastoma (Nb) and retinoblastoma (Rb) tumors, suggesting that DDX1 may promote or enhance tumor progression by
 5 altering the normal secondary structure and expression levels of RNA in cancer cells. Other DEAD-box helicases have been implicated either directly or indirectly in ultraviolet light-induced tumors, B-cell lymphoma, and myeloid malignancies (Godbout, R. et al. (1998) *J. Biol. Chem.* 273:21161-21168).

Ribonucleases (RNases) catalyze the hydrolysis of phosphodiester bonds in RNA chains,
 10 thus cleaving the RNA. For example, RNase P is a ribonucleoprotein enzyme which cleaves the 5' end of pre-tRNAs as part of their maturation process. RNase H digests the RNA strand of an RNA/DNA hybrid, which occurs in cells invaded by retroviruses. RNase H is an important enzyme in the retroviral replication cycle. RNase H domains are often found associated with reverse transcriptases. RNase activity in serum and cell extracts is elevated in a variety of cancers
 15 and infectious diseases (Schein, C.H. (1997) *Nat. Biotechnol.* 15:529-536). Regulation of RNase activity may be a means for controlling tumor angiogenesis, allergic reactions, viral infection and replication, and fungal infections.

Translation

Proteins are translated from their RNA templates on the ribosome. The eukaryotic
 20 ribosome is composed of a 60S (large) subunit and a 40S (small) subunit, which together form the 80S ribosome. In addition to the 18S, 28S, 5S, and 5.8S rRNAs, the ribosome also contains more than fifty proteins. The ribosomal proteins have a prefix which denotes the subunit to which they belong, either L (large) or S (small). Three important sites are identified on the ribosome: i) the aminoacyl-tRNA site (A site) where charged tRNAs (except the initiator-tRNA) bind on arrival; ii)
 25 the peptidyl-tRNA site (P site) where new peptide bonds are formed and where the initiator tRNA binds, and iii) the exit site (E site) where deacylated tRNAs bind prior to their release from the ribosome (see Stryer, L. (1995) Biochemistry W.H. Freeman and Company, New York NY pp. 875-908; and Lodish, H. et al. (1995) Molecular Cell Biology Scientific American Books, New York NY pp. 119-138).

30 tRNA Charging

An important family of RNA-processing enzymes in the cytoplasm is the aminoacyl-transfer RNA (tRNA) synthetases. Protein biosynthesis depends on each amino acid forming a linkage with the appropriate tRNA. The aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases are responsible for correct attachment of an amino acid with its cognate tRNA. The 20 aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase enzymes

can be divided into two structural classes, each class characterized by a distinctive topology of the catalytic domain. Class I enzymes contain a catalytic domain based on the nucleotide-binding Rossman 'fold'. Class II enzymes contain a central catalytic domain, which consists of a seven-stranded antiparallel β -sheet motif, as well as N- and C- terminal regulatory domains. Class II enzymes are separated into two groups based on the heterodimeric or homodimeric structure of the enzyme; the latter group is further subdivided by the structure of the N- and C-terminal regulatory domains. (Hartlein, M. and Cusack, S. (1995) J. Mol. Evol. 40:519-530.)

One of the best studied of the aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases is seryl-tRNA synthetase (SerRS). SerRS is a class II enzyme with an N-terminal regulatory domain in the form of a solvent exposed, antiparallel coiled-coil (the "helical arm"). A multiple sequence alignment and similarity plot of SerRS enzymes from prokaryotes, such as *E. coli*, and eukaryotes, such as yeast and mice, demonstrate the greatest variability in the N-terminal helical arm domain. Eukaryotic SerRS enzymes also contain a 20-48 amino acid C-terminal extension not found in prokaryotic synthetases. Truncation of the N-terminal helical arm causes SerRS to lose specificity for serine-tRNA, such that the truncated SerRS reacts with non-cognate tRNAs as well. In eukaryotes, loss of the C-terminal sequence does not have a major affect on enzymatic activity. (Hartlein, *supra*; and Weygand-Durašević, I. et al. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:2455-2461.)

Autoantibodies against aminoacyl-tRNAs are generated by patients with dermatomyositis and polymyositis, and correlate strongly with complicating interstitial lung disease (ILD). These antibodies appear to be generated in response to viral infection, and coxsackie virus has been used to induce experimental viral myositis in animals.

Translation Initiation

Initiation of translation can be divided into three stages. First an initiator transfer RNA (Met-tRNA_i) joins the 40S ribosomal subunit to form the 43S preinitiation complex. Next the 43S preinitiation complex binds the mRNA, and migrates to the correct AUG initiation codon. In the third step, the 60S ribosomal subunit joins the 40S subunit to generate an 80S ribosome at the initiation codon. Regulation of translation primarily involves the first and second stage in the initiation process (V.M. Pain (1996) Eur. J. Biochem. 236:747-771).

Several initiation factors, many of which contain multiple subunits, are involved in bringing an initiator tRNA and 40S ribosomal subunit together. eIF2B, a guanine nucleotide exchange protein, converts eIF2 from its GDP-bound inactive form to its GTP-bound active form. eIF2, a guanine nucleotide binding protein, recruits the initiator tRNA, bound to GTP, to the 40S ribosomal subunit. Two other factors, eIF1A and eIF3, bind and stabilize the 40S subunit by interacting with 18S ribosomal RNA and specific ribosomal structural proteins. eIF3 is also

involved in association of the 40S ribosomal subunit with mRNA. The Met-tRNA_i, eIF1A, eIF3, and 40S ribosomal subunit together make up the 43S preinitiation complex (Pain, supra).

Additional factors are required for binding of the 43S preinitiation complex to an mRNA molecule, and the process is regulated at several levels. eIF4F is a complex consisting of three proteins: eIF4E, eIF4A, and eIF4G. eIF4E recognizes and binds to the mRNA 5'-terminal m⁷GTP cap, eIF4A is a bidirectional RNA-dependent helicase, and eIF4G is a scaffolding polypeptide. eIF4G has three binding domains. The N-terminal third of eIF4G interacts with eIF4E, the central third interacts with eIF4A, and the C-terminal third interacts with eIF3 bound to the 43S preinitiation complex. Thus, eIF4G acts as a bridge between the 40S ribosomal subunit and the mRNA (M.W. Hentze (1997) Science 275:500-501).

The ability of eIF4F to initiate binding of the 43S preinitiation complex is regulated by two structural features of the mRNA. The mRNA molecule has an untranslated region (UTR) between the 5' cap and the AUG start codon. In some mRNAs this region forms secondary structures that impede binding of the 43S preinitiation complex. Interestingly, the group of mRNAs possessing highly structured 5' UTRs includes a disproportionately high number of mRNAs encoding proteins that take part in or regulate processes involved in cell proliferation. The efficiency with which these mRNAs are translated may play a crucial role in the maintenance of correct restraints on cell growth. Additionally, regulatory proteins may bind to sites within the 5' UTR and stabilize this secondary structure to prevent translation. The helicase activity of eIF4A is thought to function in removing this secondary structure to facilitate binding of the 43S preinitiation complex (Pain, supra).

The second structural feature of mRNA regulating binding of the 43S preinitiation complex is the 3' poly(A) tail. The translational efficiency of an mRNA is related to the length of its poly(A) tail, such that the longer the tail the more efficient the translation of the message. This is due to an interaction between a protein that binds the poly(A) tail, the poly(A)-binding protein (PABP), and eIF4G. This interaction between PABP and eIF4G can only occur in the presence of RNA and involves a <120 amino acid site in the C-terminal half of eIF4G. This is an important form of regulation in translation of maternally-derived messages in early embryogenesis. The egg contains numerous mRNA molecules. Molecules with long poly(A) tails are translated early in development and then undergo poly(A) tail shortening to repress further translation. Messages with short poly(A) tails, which are initially left untranslated, go through a cytoplasmic tail elongation to initiate translation later in development. This process of tail length modification responds to developmental cues and also appears to involve PABP (Pain, supra).

Another level of regulation involving eIF4G has been demonstrated by infection of

mammalian cells with picornaviruses. Several members of the picornavirus family, including poliovirus, human rhinovirus 2, and foot-and-mouth disease virus, inhibit cellular mRNA translation by cleaving eIF4G into two fragments. This cleavage by the viral protease effectively separates the N-terminal eIF4E binding site from the C-terminal binding sites for eIF4A, eIF3, and PABP. Picornavirus RNAs, which are uncapped, utilize the C-terminal fragment of eIF4G for translation. This C-terminal fragment contains a region that interacts, either directly or indirectly, with an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) on the viral RNA molecule. Thus, eIF4G acts as a bridge between the 40S ribosome and the viral IRES for cap-independent translation as well (Hentze, supra).

10 Recently, a protein (p97) in yeast was shown to resemble the C-terminal fragment of eIF4G produced by picornavirus protease cleavage. p97 binds to both eIF3 and eIF4A, and may be involved in cap-independent translation of cellular mRNAs, though no candidate RNA species have been found within eukaryotic cells. p97 has been shown to be involved in modulating γ -interferon-induced programmed cell death (Hentze, supra).

15 Translation Elongation

Elongation, the joining of additional amino acids to the initiator methionine to complete the polypeptide chain, involves elongation factors EF1 α , EF1 β γ , and EF2. EF1 α is a GTP-binding protein which, when bound by GTP, brings an aminoacyl-tRNA to the ribosome's A site. The amino acid attached to the newly arrived aminoacyl-tRNA forms a peptide bond with the initiator methionine. The GTP on EF1 α is hydrolyzed to GDP, and EF1 α -GDP dissociates from the ribosome. EF1 β γ binds EF1 α -GDP and induces the dissociation of GDP from EF1 α , allowing EF1 α to bind GTP and a new cycle to begin.

20 As subsequent aminoacyl-tRNAs are brought to the ribosome, EF-G, another GTP-binding protein, catalyzes the translocation of tRNAs from the A site to the P site and finally to the E site of the ribosome.

Translation Termination

The release factor eRF carries out termination of translation. eRF recognizes stop codons in the mRNA, leading to the release of the polypeptide chain from the ribosome.

The discovery of new RNA-associated proteins and the polynucleotides encoding them satisfies a need in the art by providing new compositions which are useful in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cell proliferative, immune/inflammatory, and reproductive disorders.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention features substantially purified polypeptides, RNA-associated proteins,

referred to collectively as "RNAAP" and individually as "RNAAP-1," "RNAAP-2," "RNAAP-3," "RNAAP-4," "RNAAP-5," "RNAAP-6," "RNAAP-7," "RNAAP-8," "RNAAP-9," "RNAAP-10," "RNAAP-11," "RNAAP-12," "RNAAP-13," "RNAAP-14," "RNAAP-15," "RNAAP-16," and "RNAAP-17." In one aspect, the invention provides a substantially purified polypeptide
5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17, and fragments thereof.

The invention further provides a substantially purified variant having at least 90% amino acid identity to at least one of the amino acid sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides an isolated and purified
10 polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof. The invention also includes an isolated and purified polynucleotide variant having at least 70% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof.

15 Additionally, the invention provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide having a sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising the amino
20 acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof.

The invention also provides a method for detecting a polynucleotide in a sample containing nucleic acids, the method comprising the steps of (a) hybridizing the complement of the polynucleotide sequence to at least one of the polynucleotides of the sample, thereby forming a hybridization complex; and (b) detecting the hybridization complex, wherein the presence of the
25 hybridization complex correlates with the presence of a polynucleotide in the sample. In one aspect, the method further comprises amplifying the polynucleotide prior to hybridization.

The invention also provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:18-34, and fragments thereof. The invention further provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide variant having at
30 least 70% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:18-34 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide having a sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:18-34 and fragments thereof.

The invention further provides an expression vector containing at least a fragment of the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof. In another aspect, the expression vector is contained within a host cell.

5 The invention also provides a method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of: (a) culturing the host cell containing an expression vector containing at least a fragment of a polynucleotide under conditions suitable for the expression of the polypeptide; and (b) recovering the polypeptide from the host cell culture.

The invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a substantially purified polypeptide having the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof, in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

The invention further includes a purified antibody which binds to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides a purified agonist and a purified antagonist to the polypeptide.

15 The invention also provides a method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of RNAAP, the method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a substantially purified polypeptide having the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof, in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

20 The invention also provides a method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of RNAAP, the method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of an antagonist of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-17 and fragments thereof.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1 shows the amino acid sequence alignment between RNAAP-1 (Incyte Clone number 399781; SEQ ID NO:1) and the human TLS-associated protein TASR (GI 2961149; SEQ ID NO:35), produced using the multisequence alignment program of LASERGENE software (DNASTAR, Madison WI).

30 Figures 2A-H show the amino acid sequence alignment between RNAAP-2 (1252206; SEQ ID NO:2) and human eIF4G1 (GI 2660712; SEQ ID NO:36), produced using the multisequence alignment program of LASERGENE software (DNASTAR, Madison WI).

Figures 3A and 3B show the hydropathy plots of RNAAP-2 (1252206; SEQ ID NO:2) and

Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meanings as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention belongs. Although any machines, materials, and methods similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used to practice or test the present invention, the preferred machines, materials and methods are now described. All publications mentioned herein are cited for the purpose of describing and disclosing the cell lines, protocols, reagents and vectors which are reported in the publications and which might be used in connection with the invention. Nothing herein is to be construed as an admission that the invention is not entitled to antedate such disclosure by virtue of prior invention.

10 DEFINITIONS

"RNAAP" refers to the amino acid sequences of substantially purified RNAAP obtained from any species, particularly a mammalian species, including bovine, ovine, porcine, murine, equine, and preferably the human species, from any source, whether natural, synthetic, semi-synthetic, or recombinant.

15 The term "agonist" refers to a molecule which, when bound to RNAAP, increases or prolongs the duration of the effect of RNAAP. Agonists may include proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, or any other molecules which bind to and modulate the effect of RNAAP.

An "allelic variant" is an alternative form of the gene encoding RNAAP. Allelic variants may result from at least one mutation in the nucleic acid sequence and may result in altered mRNAs or in polypeptides whose structure or function may or may not be altered. Any given natural or recombinant gene may have none, one, or many allelic forms. Common mutational changes which give rise to allelic variants are generally ascribed to natural deletions, additions, or substitutions of nucleotides. Each of these types of changes may occur alone, or in combination with the others, one or more times in a given sequence.

25 "Altered" nucleic acid sequences encoding RNAAP include those sequences with deletions, insertions, or substitutions of different nucleotides, resulting in a polynucleotide the same as RNAAP or a polypeptide with at least one functional characteristic of RNAAP. Included within this definition are polymorphisms which may or may not be readily detectable using a particular oligonucleotide probe of the polynucleotide encoding RNAAP, and improper or unexpected hybridization to allelic variants, with a locus other than the normal chromosomal locus for the polynucleotide sequence encoding RNAAP. The encoded protein may also be "altered," and may contain deletions, insertions, or substitutions of amino acid residues which produce a silent change and result in a functionally equivalent RNAAP. Deliberate amino acid substitutions may be made on the basis of similarity in polarity, charge, solubility, hydrophobicity,

hydrophilicity, and/or the amphipathic nature of the residues, as long as the biological or immunological activity of RNAAP is retained. For example, negatively charged amino acids may include aspartic acid and glutamic acid, positively charged amino acids may include lysine and arginine, and amino acids with uncharged polar head groups having similar hydrophilicity values may include leucine, isoleucine, and valine; glycine and alanine; asparagine and glutamine; serine and threonine; and phenylalanine and tyrosine.

The terms "amino acid" and "amino acid sequence" refer to an oligopeptide, peptide, polypeptide, or protein sequence, or a fragment of any of these, and to naturally occurring or synthetic molecules. In this context, "fragments," "immunogenic fragments," or "antigenic fragments" refer to fragments of RNAAP which are preferably at least 5 to about 15 amino acids in length, most preferably at least 14 amino acids, and which retain some biological activity or immunological activity of RNAAP. Where "amino acid sequence" is recited to refer to an amino acid sequence of a naturally occurring protein molecule, "amino acid sequence" and like terms are not meant to limit the amino acid sequence to the complete native amino acid sequence associated with the recited protein molecule.

"Amplification" relates to the production of additional copies of a nucleic acid sequence. Amplification is generally carried out using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technologies well known in the art.

The term "antagonist" refers to a molecule which, when bound to RNAAP, decreases the amount or the duration of the effect of the biological or immunological activity of RNAAP. Antagonists may include proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, antibodies, or any other molecules which decrease the effect of RNAAP.

The term "antibody" refers to intact molecules as well as to fragments thereof, such as Fab, F(ab')₂, and Fv fragments, which are capable of binding the epitopic determinant. Antibodies that bind RNAAP polypeptides can be prepared using intact polypeptides or using fragments containing small peptides of interest as the immunizing antigen. The polypeptide or oligopeptide used to immunize an animal (e.g., a mouse, a rat, or a rabbit) can be derived from the translation of RNA, or synthesized chemically, and can be conjugated to a carrier protein if desired. Commonly used carriers that are chemically coupled to peptides include bovine serum albumin, thyroglobulin, and keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH). The coupled peptide is then used to immunize the animal.

The term "antigenic determinant" refers to that fragment of a molecule (i.e., an epitope) that makes contact with a particular antibody. When a protein or a fragment of a protein is used to immunize a host animal, numerous regions of the protein may induce the production of antibodies which bind specifically to antigenic determinants (given regions or three-dimensional structures on

the protein). An antigenic determinant may compete with the intact antigen (i.e., the immunogen used to elicit the immune response) for binding to an antibody.

The term "antisense" refers to any composition containing a nucleic acid sequence which is complementary to the "sense" strand of a specific nucleic acid sequence. Antisense molecules
5 may be produced by any method including synthesis or transcription. Once introduced into a cell, the complementary nucleotides combine with natural sequences produced by the cell to form duplexes and to block either transcription or translation. The designation "negative" can refer to the antisense strand, and the designation "positive" can refer to the sense strand.

The term "biologically active" refers to a protein having structural, regulatory, or
10 biochemical functions of a naturally occurring molecule. Likewise, "immunologically active" refers to the capability of the natural, recombinant, or synthetic RNAAP, or of any oligopeptide thereof, to induce a specific immune response in appropriate animals or cells and to bind with specific antibodies.

The terms "complementary" and "complementarity" refer to the natural binding of
15 polynucleotides by base pairing. For example, the sequence "5' A-G-T 3'" bonds to the complementary sequence "3' T-C-A 5'." Complementarity between two single-stranded molecules may be "partial," such that only some of the nucleic acids bind, or it may be "complete," such that total complementarity exists between the single stranded molecules. The degree of complementarity between nucleic acid strands has significant effects on the efficiency and strength
20 of the hybridization between the nucleic acid strands. This is of particular importance in amplification reactions, which depend upon binding between nucleic acids strands, and in the design and use of peptide nucleic acid (PNA) molecules.

A "composition comprising a given polynucleotide sequence" and a "composition comprising a given amino acid sequence" refer broadly to any composition containing the given
25 polynucleotide or amino acid sequence. The composition may comprise a dry formulation or an aqueous solution. Compositions comprising polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP or fragments of RNAAP may be employed as hybridization probes. The probes may be stored in freeze-dried form and may be associated with a stabilizing agent such as a carbohydrate. In hybridizations, the probe may be deployed in an aqueous solution containing salts (e.g., NaCl),
30 detergents (e.g., sodium dodecyl sulfate; SDS), and other components (e.g., Denhardt's solution, dry milk, salmon sperm DNA, etc.).

"Consensus sequence" refers to a nucleic acid sequence which has been resequenced to resolve uncalled bases, extended using the XL-PCR kit (Perkin-Elmer, Norwalk CT) in the 5' and/or the 3' direction, and resequenced, or which has been assembled from the overlapping

sequences of more than one Incyte Clone using a computer program for fragment assembly, such as the GELVIEW fragment assembly system (GCG, Madison WI). Some sequences have been both extended and assembled to produce the consensus sequence.

The term "correlates with expression of a polynucleotide" indicates that the detection of the presence of nucleic acids, the same or related to a nucleic acid sequence encoding RNAAP, by northern analysis is indicative of the presence of nucleic acids encoding RNAAP in a sample, and thereby correlates with expression of the transcript from the polynucleotide encoding RNAAP.

A "deletion" refers to a change in the amino acid or nucleotide sequence that results in the absence of one or more amino acid residues or nucleotides.

The term "derivative" refers to the chemical modification of a polypeptide sequence, or a polynucleotide sequence. Chemical modifications of a polynucleotide sequence can include, for example, replacement of hydrogen by an alkyl, acyl, or amino group. A derivative polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which retains at least one biological or immunological function of the natural molecule. A derivative polypeptide is one modified by glycosylation, pegylation, or any similar process that retains at least one biological or immunological function of the polypeptide from which it was derived.

The term "similarity" refers to a degree of complementarity. There may be partial similarity or complete similarity. The word "identity" may substitute for the word "similarity." A partially complementary sequence that at least partially inhibits an identical sequence from hybridizing to a target nucleic acid is referred to as "substantially similar." The inhibition of hybridization of the completely complementary sequence to the target sequence may be examined using a hybridization assay (Southern or northern blot, solution hybridization, and the like) under conditions of reduced stringency. A substantially similar sequence or hybridization probe will compete for and inhibit the binding of a completely similar (identical) sequence to the target sequence under conditions of reduced stringency. This is not to say that conditions of reduced stringency are such that non-specific binding is permitted, as reduced stringency conditions require that the binding of two sequences to one another be a specific (i.e., a selective) interaction. The absence of non-specific binding may be tested by the use of a second target sequence which lacks even a partial degree of complementarity (e.g., less than about 30% similarity or identity). In the absence of non-specific binding, the substantially similar sequence or probe will not hybridize to the second non-complementary target sequence.

The phrases "percent identity" and "% identity" refer to the percentage of sequence similarity found in a comparison of two or more amino acid or nucleic acid sequences. Percent identity can be determined electronically, e.g., by using the MEGALIGN program (DNASTAR,

Madison WI) which creates alignments between two or more sequences according to methods selected by the user, e.g., the clustal method. (See, e.g., Higgins, D.G. and P.M. Sharp (1988) Gene 73:237-244.) Parameters for each method may be the default parameters provided by MEGALIGN or may be specified by the user. The clustal algorithm groups sequences into
5 clusters by examining the distances between all pairs. The clusters are aligned pairwise and then in groups. The percentage similarity between two amino acid sequences, e.g., sequence A and sequence B, is calculated by dividing the length of sequence A, minus the number of gap residues in sequence A, minus the number of gap residues in sequence B, into the sum of the residue matches between sequence A and sequence B, times one hundred. Gaps of low or of no similarity
10 between the two amino acid sequences are not included in determining percentage similarity. Percent identity between nucleic acid sequences can also be counted or calculated by other methods known in the art, e.g., the Jotun Hein method. (See, e.g., Hein, J. (1990) Methods Enzymol. 183:626-645.) Identity between sequences can also be determined by other methods known in the art, e.g., by varying hybridization conditions.

15 “Human artificial chromosomes” (HACs) are linear microchromosomes which may contain DNA sequences of about 6 kb to 10 Mb in size, and which contain all of the elements required for stable mitotic chromosome segregation and maintenance.

 The term “humanized antibody” refers to antibody molecules in which the amino acid sequence in the non-antigen binding regions has been altered so that the antibody more closely
20 resembles a human antibody, and still retains its original binding ability.

 “Hybridization” refers to any process by which a strand of nucleic acid binds with a complementary strand through base pairing.

 The term “hybridization complex” refers to a complex formed between two nucleic acid sequences by virtue of the formation of hydrogen bonds between complementary bases. A
25 hybridization complex may be formed in solution (e.g., C_0t or R_0t analysis) or formed between one nucleic acid sequence present in solution and another nucleic acid sequence immobilized on a solid support (e.g., paper, membranes, filters, chips, pins or glass slides, or any other appropriate substrate to which cells or their nucleic acids have been fixed).

 The words “insertion” and “addition” refer to changes in an amino acid or nucleotide
30 sequence resulting in the addition of one or more amino acid residues or nucleotides, respectively, to the sequence found in the naturally occurring molecule.

 “Immune response” can refer to conditions associated with inflammation, trauma, immune disorders, or infectious or genetic disease, etc. These conditions can be characterized by expression of various factors, e.g., cytokines, chemokines, and other signaling molecules, which

may affect cellular and systemic defense systems.

The term "microarray" refers to an arrangement of distinct polynucleotides on a substrate.

The terms "element" and "array element" in a microarray context, refer to hybridizable polynucleotides arranged on the surface of a substrate.

- 5 The term "modulate" refers to a change in the activity of RNAAP. For example, modulation may cause an increase or a decrease in protein activity, binding characteristics, or any other biological, functional, or immunological properties of RNAAP.

- The phrases "nucleic acid" or "nucleic acid sequence," as used herein, refer to a nucleotide, oligonucleotide, polynucleotide, or any fragment thereof. These phrases also refer to
 10 DNA or RNA of genomic or synthetic origin which may be single-stranded or double-stranded and may represent the sense or the antisense strand, to peptide nucleic acid (PNA), or to any DNA-like or RNA-like material. In this context, "fragments" refers to those nucleic acid sequences which comprise a region of unique polynucleotide sequence that specifically identifies SEQ ID NO:18-34, for example, as distinct from any other sequence in the same genome. For
 15 example, a fragment of SEQ ID NO:18-34 is useful in hybridization and amplification technologies and in analogous methods that distinguish SEQ ID NO:18-34 from related polynucleotide sequences. A fragment of SEQ ID NO:18-34 is at least about 15-20 nucleotides in length. The precise length of the fragment of SEQ ID NO:18-34 and the region of SEQ ID NO:18-34 to which the fragment corresponds are routinely determinable by one of ordinary skill
 20 in the art based on the intended purpose for the fragment. In some cases, a fragment, when translated, would produce polypeptides retaining some functional characteristic, e.g., antigenicity, or structural domain characteristic, e.g., ATP-binding site, of the full-length polypeptide.

- The terms "operably associated" and "operably linked" refer to functionally related nucleic acid sequences. A promoter is operably associated or operably linked with a coding
 25 sequence if the promoter controls the translation of the encoded polypeptide. While operably associated or operably linked nucleic acid sequences can be contiguous and in the same reading frame, certain genetic elements, e.g., repressor genes, are not contiguously linked to the sequence encoding the polypeptide but still bind to operator sequences that control expression of the polypeptide.

- 30 The term "oligonucleotide" refers to a nucleic acid sequence of at least about 6 nucleotides to 60 nucleotides, preferably about 15 to 30 nucleotides, and most preferably about 20 to 25 nucleotides, which can be used in PCR amplification or in a hybridization assay or microarray. "Oligonucleotide" is substantially equivalent to the terms "amplimer," "primer," "oligomer," and "probe," as these terms are commonly defined in the art.

“Peptide nucleic acid” (PNA) refers to an antisense molecule or anti-gene agent which comprises an oligonucleotide of at least about 5 nucleotides in length linked to a peptide backbone of amino acid residues ending in lysine. The terminal lysine confers solubility to the composition. PNAs preferentially bind complementary single stranded DNA or RNA and stop transcript
5 elongation, and may be pegylated to extend their lifespan in the cell.

The term “sample” is used in its broadest sense. A sample suspected of containing nucleic acids encoding RNAAP, or fragments thereof, or RNAAP itself, may comprise a bodily fluid; an extract from a cell, chromosome, organelle, or membrane isolated from a cell; a cell; genomic DNA, RNA, or cDNA, in solution or bound to a substrate; a tissue; a tissue print; etc.

10 The terms “specific binding” and “specifically binding” refer to that interaction between a protein or peptide and an agonist, an antibody, or an antagonist. The interaction is dependent upon the presence of a particular structure of the protein, e.g., the antigenic determinant or epitope, recognized by the binding molecule. For example, if an antibody is specific for epitope “A,” the presence of a polypeptide containing the epitope A, or the presence of free unlabeled A, in a
15 reaction containing free labeled A and the antibody will reduce the amount of labeled A that binds to the antibody.

The term “stringent conditions” refers to conditions which permit hybridization between polynucleotides and the claimed polynucleotides. Stringent conditions can be defined by salt concentration, the concentration of organic solvent, e.g., formamide, temperature, and other
20 conditions well known in the art. In particular, stringency can be increased by reducing the concentration of salt, increasing the concentration of formamide, or raising the hybridization temperature.

The term “substantially purified” refers to nucleic acid or amino acid sequences that are removed from their natural environment and are isolated or separated, and are at least about 60%
25 free, preferably about 75% free, and most preferably about 90% free from other components with which they are naturally associated.

A “substitution” refers to the replacement of one or more amino acids or nucleotides by different amino acids or nucleotides, respectively.

“Substrate” refers to any suitable rigid or semi-rigid support including membranes, filters,
30 chips, slides, wafers, fibers, magnetic or nonmagnetic beads, gels, tubing, plates, polymers, microparticles and capillaries. The substrate can have a variety of surface forms, such as wells, trenches, pins, channels and pores, to which polynucleotides or polypeptides are bound.

“Transformation” describes a process by which exogenous DNA enters and changes a recipient cell. Transformation may occur under natural or artificial conditions according to



various methods well known in the art, and may rely on any known method for the insertion of foreign nucleic acid sequences into a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell. The method for transformation is selected based on the type of host cell being transformed and may include, but is not limited to, viral infection, electroporation, heat shock, lipofection, and particle bombardment.

5 The term "transformed" cells includes stably transformed cells in which the inserted DNA is capable of replication either as an autonomously replicating plasmid or as part of the host chromosome, as well as transiently transformed cells which express the inserted DNA or RNA for limited periods of time.

A "variant" of RNAAP polypeptides refers to an amino acid sequence that is altered by one or more amino acid residues. The variant may have "conservative" changes, wherein a substituted amino acid has similar structural or chemical properties (e.g., replacement of leucine with isoleucine). More rarely, a variant may have "nonconservative" changes (e.g., replacement of glycine with tryptophan). Analogous minor variations may also include amino acid deletions or insertions, or both. Guidance in determining which amino acid residues may be substituted,
15 inserted, or deleted without abolishing biological or immunological activity may be found using computer programs well known in the art, for example, LASERGENE software (DNASTAR).

The term "variant," when used in the context of a polynucleotide sequence, may encompass a polynucleotide sequence related to RNAAP. This definition may also include, for example, "allelic" (as defined above), "splice," "species," or "polymorphic" variants. A splice
20 variant may have significant identity to a reference molecule, but will generally have a greater or lesser number of polynucleotides due to alternate splicing of exons during mRNA processing. The corresponding polypeptide may possess additional functional domains or an absence of domains. Species variants are polynucleotide sequences that vary from one species to another. The resulting polypeptides generally will have significant amino acid identity relative to each other. A
25 polymorphic variant is a variation in the polynucleotide sequence of a particular gene between individuals of a given species. Polymorphic variants also may encompass "single nucleotide polymorphisms" (SNPs) in which the polynucleotide sequence varies by one base. The presence of SNPs may be indicative of, for example, a certain population, a disease state, or a propensity for a disease state.

30 THE INVENTION

The invention is based on the discovery of new human RNA-associated proteins (RNAAP), the polynucleotides encoding RNAAP, and the use of these compositions for the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of cell proliferative, immune/inflammatory, and reproductive disorders.

Table 1 lists the Incyte clones used to assemble full length nucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP. Columns 1 and 2 show the sequence identification numbers (SEQ ID NOs) of the polypeptide and nucleotide sequences, respectively. Column 3 shows the clone IDs of the Incyte clones in which nucleic acids encoding each RNAAP were identified, and column 4 shows the cDNA libraries from which these clones were isolated. Column 5 shows Incyte clones and their corresponding cDNA libraries. Clones for which cDNA libraries are not indicated were derived from pooled cDNA libraries. The clones in column 5 were used to assemble the consensus nucleotide sequence of each RNAAP and are useful as fragments in hybridization technologies.

The columns of Table 2 show various properties of each of the polypeptides of the invention: column 1 references the SEQ ID NO; column 2 shows the number of amino acid residues in each polypeptide; column 3 shows potential phosphorylation sites; column 4 shows potential glycosylation sites; column 5 shows the amino acid residues comprising signature sequences and motifs; column 6 shows the identity of each polypeptide; and column 7 shows analytical methods used to identify each polypeptide through sequence homology and protein motifs. The segment of RNAAP-1 from residue R51 through residue D60, corresponding to region BL00030B, received a score of 1118 on a strength of 1104, while the segment from residue L12 through residue F30, corresponding to region BL00030A, received a score of 1089 on a strength of 1095, and supported the presence of BL00030B with a *P* value less than 2.4×10^{-4} .

As shown in Figure 1, RNAAP-1 has chemical and structural similarity with the human TLS-associated protein, TASR (GI 2961149; SEQ ID NO:35). In particular, RNAAP-1 and TASR share 76% identity, including the RNA recognition motif.

As shown in Figures 2 A-H, RNAAP-2 has chemical and structural similarity with human eIF4G1 (GI 2660712; SEQ ID NO:36). In particular, RNAAP-2 and human eIF4G1 share 45% identity and have similar isoelectric points (5.23 and 5.04, respectively). As shown in Figures 3A and 3B, RNAAP-2 and human eIF4G1 have similar hydrophobicity profiles.

As shown in Figures 4A and 4B, RNAAP-3 has chemical and structural similarity with *Drosophila* seryl-tRNA synthetase (GI 2440051; SEQ ID NO:37). In particular, RNAAP-3 and seryl-tRNA synthetase share 41% identity.

As shown in Figures 5A, 5B, and 5C, RNAAP-4 has chemical and structural similarity with human arginine methyltransferase (GI 1808648; SEQ ID NO:38). In particular, RNAAP-4 and arginine methyltransferase share 46% identity.

The columns of Table 3 show the tissue-specificity and diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with nucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP. The first column of Table 3 lists the nucleotide SEQ ID NOs. Column 2 lists fragments of the nucleotide sequences of column 1.

These fragments are useful, for example, in hybridization or amplification technologies to identify SEQ ID NO:18-34 and to distinguish between SEQ ID NO:18-34 and related polynucleotide sequences. The polypeptides encoded by these fragments are useful, for example, as immunogenic peptides. Column 3 lists tissue categories which express RNAAP as a fraction of total tissues expressing RNAAP. Column 4 lists diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with those tissues expressing RNAAP as a fraction of total tissues expressing RNAAP. Northern analysis shows the expression of SEQ ID NO:18 in various libraries, at least 51% of which are associated with cancer and at least 29% of which are associated with inflammation and the immune response. Of particular note is SEQ ID NO: 29, which is expressed in only 25 libraries, 10(40%) of which are associated with reproductive tissue and 17(76%) of which are associated with cell proliferative disorders. Column 5 lists the vectors used to subclone each cDNA library.

The columns of Table 4 show descriptions of the tissues used to construct the cDNA libraries from which cDNA clones encoding RNAAP were isolated. Column 1 references the nucleotide SEQ ID NOs, column 2 shows the cDNA libraries from which these clones were isolated, and column 3 shows the tissue origins and other descriptive information relevant to the cDNA libraries in column 2.

The invention also encompasses RNAAP variants. A preferred RNAAP variant is one which has at least about 80%, more preferably at least about 90%, and most preferably at least about 95% amino acid sequence identity to the RNAAP amino acid sequence, and which contains at least one functional or structural characteristic of RNAAP.

The invention also encompasses polynucleotides which encode RNAAP. In a particular embodiment, the invention encompasses a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:18-34, which encodes RNAAP.

The invention also encompasses a variant of a polynucleotide sequence encoding RNAAP. In particular, such a variant polynucleotide sequence will have at least about 70%, more preferably at least about 85%, and most preferably at least about 95% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide sequence encoding RNAAP. A particular aspect of the invention encompasses a variant of a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:18-34 which has at least about 70%, more preferably at least about 85%, and most preferably at least about 95% polynucleotide sequence identity to a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:18-34. Any one of the polynucleotide variants described above can encode an amino acid sequence which contains at least one functional or structural characteristic of RNAAP.

It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that as a result of the degeneracy of the

21

most preferably of at least about 42°C. Varying additional parameters, such as hybridization time, the concentration of detergent, e.g., sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), and the inclusion or exclusion of carrier DNA, are well known to those skilled in the art. Various levels of stringency are accomplished by combining these various conditions as needed. In a preferred embodiment, 5 hybridization will occur at 30°C in 750 mM NaCl, 75 mM trisodium citrate, and 1% SDS. In a more preferred embodiment, hybridization will occur at 37°C in 500 mM NaCl, 50 mM trisodium citrate, 1% SDS, 35% formamide, and 100 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA (ssDNA). In a most preferred embodiment, hybridization will occur at 42°C in 250 mM NaCl, 25 mM trisodium citrate, 1% SDS, 50 % formamide, and 200 µg/ml ssDNA. Useful variations on these conditions 10 will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

The washing steps which follow hybridization can also vary in stringency. Wash stringency conditions can be defined by salt concentration and by temperature. As above, wash stringency can be increased by decreasing salt concentration or by increasing temperature. For example, stringent salt concentration for the wash steps will preferably be less than about 30 mM 15 NaCl and 3 mM trisodium citrate, and most preferably less than about 15 mM NaCl and 1.5 mM trisodium citrate. Stringent temperature conditions for the wash steps will ordinarily include temperature of at least about 25°C, more preferably of at least about 42°C, and most preferably of at least about 68°C. In a preferred embodiment, wash steps will occur at 25°C in 30 mM NaCl, 3 mM trisodium citrate, and 0.1% SDS. In a more preferred embodiment, wash steps will occur at 20 42°C in 15 mM NaCl, 1.5 mM trisodium citrate, and 0.1% SDS. In a most preferred embodiment, wash steps will occur at 68°C in 15 mM NaCl, 1.5 mM trisodium citrate, and 0.1% SDS. Additional variations on these conditions will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

Methods for DNA sequencing are well known in the art and may be used to practice any of the embodiments of the invention. The methods may employ such enzymes as the Klenow 25 fragment of DNA polymerase I, SEQUENASE (US Biochemical, Cleveland OH), Taq polymerase (Perkin-Elmer), thermostable T7 polymerase (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, Piscataway NJ), or combinations of polymerases and proofreading exonucleases such as those found in the ELONGASE amplification system (Life Technologies, Gaithersburg MD). Preferably, sequence preparation is automated with machines such as the MICROLAB 2200 liquid transfer system 30 (Hamilton, Reno NV), PTC200 thermal cycler (MJ Research, Watertown MA) and ABI CATALYST 800 thermal cycler (Perkin-Elmer). Sequencing is then carried out using either the ABI 373 or 377 DNA sequencing system (Perkin-Elmer), the MEGABACE 1000 DNA sequencing system (Molecular Dynamics, Sunnyvale CA), or other systems known in the art. The resulting sequences are analyzed using a variety of algorithms which are well known in the art.

(See, e.g., Ausubel, F.M. (1997) Short Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, New York NY, unit 7.7; Meyers, R.A. (1995) Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Wiley VCH, New York NY, pp. 856-853.)

The nucleic acid sequences encoding RNAAP may be extended utilizing a partial nucleotide sequence and employing various PCR-based methods known in the art to detect upstream sequences, such as promoters and regulatory elements. For example, one method which may be employed, restriction-site PCR, uses universal and nested primers to amplify unknown sequence from genomic DNA within a cloning vector. (See, e.g., Sarkar, G. (1993) PCR Methods Applic. 2:318-322.) Another method, inverse PCR, uses primers that extend in divergent directions to amplify unknown sequence from a circularized template. The template is derived from restriction fragments comprising a known genomic locus and surrounding sequences. (See, e.g., Triglia, T. et al. (1988) Nucleic Acids Res. 16:8186.) A third method, capture PCR, involves PCR amplification of DNA fragments adjacent to known sequences in human and yeast artificial chromosome DNA. (See, e.g., Lagerstrom, M. et al. (1991) PCR Methods Applic. 1:111-119.) In this method, multiple restriction enzyme digestions and ligations may be used to insert an engineered double-stranded sequence into a region of unknown sequence before performing PCR. Other methods which may be used to retrieve unknown sequences are known in the art. (See, e.g., Parker, J.D. et al. (1991) Nucleic Acids Res. 19:3055-306). Additionally, one may use PCR, nested primers, and PROMOTERFINDER libraries (Clontech, Palo Alto CA) to walk genomic DNA. This procedure avoids the need to screen libraries and is useful in finding intron/exon junctions. For all PCR-based methods, primers may be designed using commercially available software, such as OLIGO 4.06 Primer Analysis software (National Biosciences, Plymouth MN) or another appropriate program, to be about 22 to 30 nucleotides in length, to have a GC content of about 50% or more, and to anneal to the template at temperatures of about 68°C to 72°C.

25 When screening for full-length cDNAs, it is preferable to use libraries that have been size-selected to include larger cDNAs. In addition, random-primed libraries, which often include sequences containing the 5' regions of genes, are preferable for situations in which an oligo d(T) library does not yield a full-length cDNA. Genomic libraries may be useful for extension of sequence into 5' non-transcribed regulatory regions.

30 Capillary electrophoresis systems which are commercially available may be used to analyze the size or confirm the nucleotide sequence of sequencing or PCR products. In particular, capillary sequencing may employ flowable polymers for electrophoretic separation, four different nucleotide-specific, laser-stimulated fluorescent dyes, and a charge coupled device camera for detection of the emitted wavelengths. Output/light intensity may be converted to electrical signal

using appropriate software (e.g., GENOTYPER and SEQUENCE NAVIGATOR, Perkin-Elmer), and the entire process from loading of samples to computer analysis and electronic data display may be computer controlled. Capillary electrophoresis is especially preferable for sequencing small DNA fragments which may be present in limited amounts in a particular sample.

5 In another embodiment of the invention, polynucleotide sequences or fragments thereof which encode RNAAP may be cloned in recombinant DNA molecules that direct expression of RNAAP, or fragments or functional equivalents thereof, in appropriate host cells. Due to the inherent degeneracy of the genetic code, other DNA sequences which encode substantially the same or a functionally equivalent amino acid sequence may be produced and used to express
10 RNAAP.

The nucleotide sequences of the present invention can be engineered using methods generally known in the art in order to alter RNAAP-encoding sequences for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, modification of the cloning, processing, and/or expression of the gene product. DNA shuffling by random fragmentation and PCR reassembly of gene fragments
15 and synthetic oligonucleotides may be used to engineer the nucleotide sequences. For example, oligonucleotide-mediated site-directed mutagenesis may be used to introduce mutations that create new restriction sites, alter glycosylation patterns, change codon preference, produce splice variants, and so forth.

In another embodiment, sequences encoding RNAAP may be synthesized, in whole or in
20 part, using chemical methods well known in the art. (See, e.g., Caruthers, M.H. et al. (1980) Nucl. Acids Res. Symp. Ser. 7:215-223, and Horn, T. et al. (1980) Nucl. Acids Res. Symp. Ser. 7:225-232.) Alternatively, RNAAP itself or a fragment thereof may be synthesized using chemical methods. For example, peptide synthesis can be performed using various solid-phase techniques. (See, e.g., Roberge, J.Y. et al. (1995) Science 269:202-204.) Automated synthesis
25 may be achieved using the ABI 431A peptide synthesizer (Perkin-Elmer). Additionally, the amino acid sequence of RNAAP, or any part thereof, may be altered during direct synthesis and/or combined with sequences from other proteins, or any part thereof, to produce a variant polypeptide.

The peptide may be substantially purified by preparative high performance liquid
30 chromatography. (See, e.g., Chiez, R.M. and F.Z. Regnier (1990) Methods Enzymol. 182:392-421.) The composition of the synthetic peptides may be confirmed by amino acid analysis or by sequencing. (See, e.g., Creighton, T. (1984) Proteins, Structures and Molecular Properties, WH Freeman, New York NY.)

In order to express a biologically active RNAAP, the nucleotide sequences encoding

RNAAP or derivatives thereof may be inserted into an appropriate expression vector, i.e., a vector which contains the necessary elements for transcriptional and translational control of the inserted coding sequence in a suitable host. These elements include regulatory sequences, such as enhancers, constitutive and inducible promoters, and 5' and 3' untranslated regions in the vector and in polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP. Such elements may vary in their strength and specificity. Specific initiation signals may also be used to achieve more efficient translation of sequences encoding RNAAP. Such signals include the ATG initiation codon and adjacent sequences, e.g. the Kozak sequence. In cases where sequences encoding RNAAP and its initiation codon and upstream regulatory sequences are inserted into the appropriate expression vector, no additional transcriptional or translational control signals may be needed. However, in cases where only coding sequence, or a fragment thereof, is inserted, exogenous translational control signals including an in-frame ATG initiation codon should be provided by the vector. Exogenous translational elements and initiation codons may be of various origins, both natural and synthetic. The efficiency of expression may be enhanced by the inclusion of enhancers appropriate for the particular host cell system used. (See, e.g., Scharf, D. et al. (1994) *Results Probl. Cell Differ.* 20:125-162.)

Methods which are well known to those skilled in the art may be used to construct expression vectors containing sequences encoding RNAAP and appropriate transcriptional and translational control elements. These methods include in vitro recombinant DNA techniques, synthetic techniques, and in vivo genetic recombination. (See, e.g., Sambrook, J. et al. (1989) Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Press, Plainview NY, ch. 4, 8, and 16-17; Ausubel, F.M. et al. (1995) Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, New York NY, ch. 9, 13, and 16.)

A variety of expression vector/host systems may be utilized to contain and express sequences encoding RNAAP. These include, but are not limited to, microorganisms such as bacteria transformed with recombinant bacteriophage, plasmid, or cosmid DNA expression vectors; yeast transformed with yeast expression vectors; insect cell systems infected with viral expression vectors (e.g., baculovirus); plant cell systems transformed with viral expression vectors (e.g., cauliflower mosaic virus, CaMV, or tobacco mosaic virus, TMV) or with bacterial expression vectors (e.g., Ti or pBR322 plasmids); or animal cell systems. The invention is not limited by the host cell employed.

In bacterial systems, a number of cloning and expression vectors may be selected depending upon the use intended for polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP. For example, routine cloning, subcloning, and propagation of polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP can

be achieved using a multifunctional *E. coli* vector such as PBLUESCRIPT (Stratagene, La Jolla CA) or pSPORT1 plasmid (Life Technologies). Ligation of sequences encoding RNAAP into the vector's multiple cloning site disrupts the *lacZ* gene, allowing a colorimetric screening procedure for identification of transformed bacteria containing recombinant molecules. In addition, these

5 vectors may be useful for in vitro transcription, dideoxy sequencing, single strand rescue with
helper phage, and creation of nested deletions in the cloned sequence. (See, e.g., Van Heeke, G.
and S.M. Schuster (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:5503-5509.) When large quantities of RNAAP are
needed, e.g. for the production of antibodies, vectors which direct high level expression of
RNAAP may be used. For example, vectors containing the strong, inducible T5 or T7
10 bacteriophage promoter may be used.

Yeast expression systems may be used for production of RNAAP. A number of vectors containing constitutive or inducible promoters, such as alpha factor, alcohol oxidase, and PGH promoters, may be used in the yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae or Pichia pastoris. In addition, such vectors direct either the secretion or intracellular retention of expressed proteins and enable integration of foreign sequences into the host genome for stable propagation. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1995, supra; Grant et al. (1987) Methods Enzymol. 153:516-54; and Scorer, C. A. et al. (1994) Bio/Technology 12:181-184.)

Plant systems may also be used for expression of RNAAP. Transcription of sequences encoding RNAAP may be driven viral promoters, e.g., the 35S and 19S promoters of CaMV used alone or in combination with the omega leader sequence from TMV (Takamatsu, N. (1987) EMBO J. 6:307-311). Alternatively, plant promoters such as the small subunit of RUBISCO or heat shock promoters may be used. (See, e.g., Coruzzi, G. et al. (1984) EMBO J. 3:1671-1680; Broglie, R. et al. (1984) Science 224:838-843; and Winter, J. et al. (1991) Results Probl. Cell Differ. 17:85-105.) These constructs can be introduced into plant cells by direct DNA transformation or pathogen-mediated transfection. (See, e.g., The McGraw Hill Yearbook of Science and Technology (1992) McGraw Hill, New York NY, pp. 191-196.)

In mammalian cells, a number of viral-based expression systems may be utilized. In cases where an adenovirus is used as an expression vector, sequences encoding RNAAP may be ligated into an adenovirus transcription/translation complex consisting of the late promoter and tripartite leader sequence. Insertion in a non-essential E1 or E3 region of the viral genome may be used to obtain infective virus which expresses RNAAP in host cells. (See, e.g., Logan, J. and T. Shenk (1984) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 81:3655-3659.) In addition, transcription enhancers, such as the Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) enhancer, may be used to increase expression in mammalian host cells. SV40 or EBV-based vectors may also be used for high-level protein expression.

Human artificial chromosomes (HACs) may also be employed to deliver larger fragments of DNA than can be contained in and expressed from a plasmid. HACs of about 6 kb to 10 Mb are constructed and delivered via conventional delivery methods (liposomes, polycationic amino polymers, or vesicles) for therapeutic purposes. (See, e.g., Harrington, J.J. et al. (1997) Nat.

5 Genet. 15:345-355.)

For long term production of recombinant proteins in mammalian systems, stable expression of RNAAP in cell lines is preferred. For example, sequences encoding RNAAP can be transformed into cell lines using expression vectors which may contain viral origins of replication and/or endogenous expression elements and a selectable marker gene on the same or on a separate
10 vector. Following the introduction of the vector, cells may be allowed to grow for about 1 to 2 days in enriched media before being switched to selective media. The purpose of the selectable marker is to confer resistance to a selective agent, and its presence allows growth and recovery of cells which successfully express the introduced sequences. Resistant clones of stably transformed cells may be propagated using tissue culture techniques appropriate to the cell type.

15 Any number of selection systems may be used to recover transformed cell lines. These include, but are not limited to, the herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase and adenine phosphoribosyltransferase genes, for use in *tk* or *apv* cells, respectively. (See, e.g., Wigler, M. et al. (1977) Cell 11:223-232; Lowy, I. et al. (1980) Cell 22:817-823.) Also, antimetabolite, antibiotic, or herbicide resistance can be used as the basis for selection. For example, *dhfr* confers
20 resistance to methotrexate; *neo* confers resistance to the aminoglycosides neomycin and G-418; and *als* or *pat* confer resistance to chlorsulfuron and phosphinotricin acetyltransferase, respectively. (See, e.g., Wigler, M. et al. (1980) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 77:3567-3570; Colbere-Garapin, F. et al. (1981) J. Mol. Biol. 150:1-14.) Additional selectable genes have been described, e.g., *trpB* and *hisD*, which alter cellular requirements for metabolites. (See, e.g.,
25 Hartman, S.C. and R.C. Mulligan (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 85:8047-8051.) Visible markers, e.g., anthocyanins, green fluorescent proteins (GFP; Clontech), β glucuronidase and its substrate β -glucuronide, or luciferase and its substrate luciferin may be used. These markers can be used not only to identify transformants, but also to quantify the amount of transient or stable protein expression attributable to a specific vector system. (See, e.g., Rhodes, C.A. (1995) Methods Mol.
30 Biol. 55:121-131.)

Although the presence/absence of marker gene expression suggests that the gene of interest is also present, the presence and expression of the gene may need to be confirmed. For example, if the sequence encoding RNAAP is inserted within a marker gene sequence, transformed cells containing sequences encoding RNAAP can be identified by the absence of

marker gene function. Alternatively, a marker gene can be placed in tandem with a sequence encoding RNAAP under the control of a single promoter. Expression of the marker gene in response to induction or selection usually indicates expression of the tandem gene as well.

In general, host cells that contain the nucleic acid sequence encoding RNAAP and that express RNAAP may be identified by a variety of procedures known to those of skill in the art. These procedures include, but are not limited to, DNA-DNA or DNA-RNA hybridizations, PCR amplification, and protein bioassay or immunoassay techniques which include membrane, solution, or chip based technologies for the detection and/or quantification of nucleic acid or protein sequences.

Immunological methods for detecting and measuring the expression of RNAAP using either specific polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies are known in the art. Examples of such techniques include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), radioimmunoassays (RIAs), and fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS). A two-site, monoclonal-based immunoassay utilizing monoclonal antibodies reactive to two non-interfering epitopes on RNAAP is preferred, but a competitive binding assay may be employed. These and other assays are well known in the art. (See, e.g., Hampton, R. et al. (1990) Serological Methods, a Laboratory Manual, APS Press, St Paul MN, Sect. IV; Coligan, J. E. et al. (1997) Current Protocols in Immunology, Greene Pub. Associates and Wiley-Interscience, New York NY; and Pound, J.D. (1998) Immunochemical Protocols, Humana Press, Totowa NJ).

A wide variety of labels and conjugation techniques are known by those skilled in the art and may be used in various nucleic acid and amino acid assays. Means for producing labeled hybridization or PCR probes for detecting sequences related to polynucleotides encoding RNAAP include oligolabeling, nick translation, end-labeling, or PCR amplification using a labeled nucleotide. Alternatively, the sequences encoding RNAAP, or any fragments thereof, may be cloned into a vector for the production of an mRNA probe. Such vectors are known in the art, are commercially available, and may be used to synthesize RNA probes in vitro by addition of an appropriate RNA polymerase such as T7, T3, or SP6 and labeled nucleotides. These procedures may be conducted using a variety of commercially available kits, such as those provided by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, Promega (Madison WI), and US Biochemical. Suitable reporter molecules or labels which may be used for ease of detection include radionuclides, enzymes, fluorescent, chemiluminescent, or chromogenic agents, as well as substrates, cofactors, inhibitors, magnetic particles, and the like.

Host cells transformed with nucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP may be cultured under conditions suitable for the expression and recovery of the protein from cell culture. The

protein produced by a transformed cell may be secreted or retained intracellularly depending on the sequence and/or the vector used. As will be understood by those of skill in the art, expression vectors containing polynucleotides which encode RNAAP may be designed to contain signal sequences which direct secretion of RNAAP through a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell membrane.

- 5 In addition, a host cell strain may be chosen for its ability to modulate expression of the inserted sequences or to process the expressed protein in the desired fashion. Such modifications of the polypeptide include, but are not limited to, acetylation, carboxylation, glycosylation, phosphorylation, lipidation, and acylation. Post-translational processing which cleaves a "prepro" form of the protein may also be used to specify protein targeting, folding, and/or activity.
- 10 Different host cells which have specific cellular machinery and characteristic mechanisms for post-translational activities (e.g., CHO, HeLa, MDCK, HEK293, and WI38) are available from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, Manassas, VA) and may be chosen to ensure the correct modification and processing of the foreign protein.

- In another embodiment of the invention, natural, modified, or recombinant nucleic acid
- 15 sequences encoding RNAAP may be ligated to a heterologous sequence resulting in translation of a fusion protein in any of the aforementioned host systems. For example, a chimeric RNAAP protein containing a heterologous moiety that can be recognized by a commercially available antibody may facilitate the screening of peptide libraries for inhibitors of RNAAP activity. Heterologous protein and peptide moieties may also facilitate purification of fusion proteins using
- 20 commercially available affinity matrices. Such moieties include, but are not limited to, glutathione S-transferase (GST), maltose binding protein (MBP), thioredoxin (Trx), calmodulin binding peptide (CBP), 6-His, FLAG, *c-myc*, and hemagglutinin (HA). GST, MBP, Trx, CBP, and 6-His enable purification of their cognate fusion proteins on immobilized glutathione, maltose, phenylarsine oxide, calmodulin, and metal-chelate resins, respectively. FLAG, *c-myc*, and
- 25 hemagglutinin (HA) enable immunoaffinity purification of fusion proteins using commercially available monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies that specifically recognize these epitope tags. A fusion protein may also be engineered to contain a proteolytic cleavage site located between the RNAAP encoding sequence and the heterologous protein sequence, so that RNAAP may be cleaved away from the heterologous moiety following purification. Methods for fusion protein
- 30 expression and purification are discussed in Ausubel (1995, supra, ch 10). A variety of commercially available kits may also be used to facilitate expression and purification of fusion proteins.

In a further embodiment of the invention, synthesis of radiolabeled RNAAP may be achieved in vitro using the TNT rabbit reticulocyte lysate or wheat germ extract systems

(Promega). These systems couple transcription and translation of protein-coding sequences operably associated with the T7, T3, or SP6 promoters. Translation takes place in the presence of a radiolabeled amino acid precursor, preferably ^{35}S -methionine.

Fragments of RNAAP may be produced not only by recombinant production, but also by direct peptide synthesis using solid-phase techniques. (See, e.g., Creighton, supra, pp. 55-60.) Protein synthesis may be performed by manual techniques or by automation. Automated synthesis may be achieved, for example, using the ABI 431A peptide synthesizer (Perkin-Elmer). Various fragments of RNAAP may be synthesized separately and then combined to produce the full length molecule.

10 THERAPEUTICS

Chemical and structural similarity, e.g., in the context of sequences and motifs, exists between regions of RNAAP and RNA-associated proteins. In addition, the expression of RNAAP is closely associated with reproductive tissues, nervous tissues, cell proliferation including cancer, and inflammation and immune response. Therefore, RNAAP appears to play a role in cell proliferative, immune/inflammatory, and reproductive disorders. In the treatment of disorders associated with increased RNAAP expression or activity, it is desirable to decrease the expression or activity of RNAAP. In the treatment of the above conditions associated with decreased RNAAP expression or activity, it is desirable to increase the expression or activity of RNAAP.

Therefore, in one embodiment, RNAAP or a fragment or derivative thereof may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of RNAAP. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to, a cell proliferative disorder such as

actinic keratosis, arteriosclerosis, atherosclerosis, bursitis, cirrhosis, hepatitis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), myelofibrosis, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria, polycythemia vera, psoriasis, primary thrombocythemia, and cancers including adenocarcinoma, leukemia, lymphoma, melanoma, myeloma, sarcoma, teratocarcinoma, and, in particular, cancers of the adrenal gland, bladder, bone, bone marrow, brain, breast, cervix, gall bladder, ganglia, gastrointestinal tract, heart, kidney, liver, lung, muscle, ovary, pancreas, parathyroid, penis, prostate, salivary glands, skin, spleen, testis, thymus, thyroid, and uterus; an immune/inflammatory disorder such as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), Addison's disease, adult respiratory distress syndrome, allergies, ankylosing spondylitis, amyloidosis, anemia, asthma, atherosclerosis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thyroiditis, autoimmune polyendocrinopathy-candidiasis-ectodermal dystrophy (APECED), bronchitis, cholecystitis, contact dermatitis, Crohn's disease, atopic dermatitis, dermatomyositis, diabetes

mellitus, emphysema, episodic lymphopenia with lymphocytotoxins, erythroblastosis fetalis, erythema nodosum, atrophic gastritis, glomerulonephritis, Goodpasture's syndrome, gout, Gr disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, hypereosinophilia, irritable bowel syndrome, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, myocardial or pericardial inflammation, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis,

pancreatitis, polymyositis, psoriasis, Reiter's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, Sjögren's syndrome, systemic anaphylaxis, systemic lupus erythematosus, systemic sclerosis, thrombocytopenic purpura, ulcerative colitis, uveitis, Werner syndrome, complications of cancer, hemodialysis, and extracorporeal circulation, viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic, protozoal, and helminthic infections, and trauma; and a reproductive disorder such as disorders of prolactin production; infertility, including tubal disease, ovulatory defects, and endometriosis; disruptions of the estrous cycle, disruptions of the menstrual cycle, polycystic ovary syndrome, ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome, endometrial and ovarian tumors, uterine fibroids, autoimmune disorders, ectopic pregnancies, and teratogenesis; cancer of the breast, fibrocystic breast disease, and galactorrhea; disruptions of spermatogenesis, abnormal sperm physiology, cancer of the testis, cancer of the prostate, benign prostatic hyperplasia, prostatitis, Peyronie's disease, impotence, carcinoma of the male breast, and gynecomastia.

In another embodiment, a vector capable of expressing RNAAP or a fragment or derivative thereof may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of RNAAP including, but not limited to, those described above.

20 In a further embodiment, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a substantially purified RNAAP in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of RNAAP including, but not limited to, those provided above.

In still another embodiment, an agonist which modulates the activity of RNAAP may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of RNAAP including, but not limited to, those listed above.

In a further embodiment, an antagonist of RNAAP may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of RNAAP. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to, those described above. In one aspect, an antibody which specifically binds RNAAP may be used directly as an antagonist or indirectly as a targeting or delivery mechanism for bringing a pharmaceutical agent to cells or tissue which express RNAAP.

In an additional embodiment, a vector expressing the complement of the polynucleotide encoding RNAAP may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with

increased expression or activity of RNAAP including, but not limited to, those described above.

In other embodiments, any of the proteins, antagonists, antibodies, agonists, complementary sequences, or vectors of the invention may be administered in combination with other appropriate therapeutic agents. Selection of the appropriate agents for use in combination
5 therapy may be made by one of ordinary skill in the art, according to conventional pharmaceutical principles. The combination of therapeutic agents may act synergistically to effect the treatment or prevention of the various disorders described above. Using this approach, one may be able to achieve therapeutic efficacy with lower dosages of each agent, thus reducing the potential for adverse side effects.

10 An antagonist of RNAAP may be produced using methods which are generally known in the art. In particular, purified RNAAP may be used to produce antibodies or to screen libraries of pharmaceutical agents to identify those which specifically bind RNAAP. Antibodies to RNAAP may also be generated using methods that are well known in the art. Such antibodies may include, but are not limited to, polyclonal, monoclonal, chimeric, and single chain antibodies, Fab
15 fragments, and fragments produced by a Fab expression library. Neutralizing antibodies (i.e., those which inhibit dimer formation) are especially preferred for therapeutic use.

For the production of antibodies, various hosts including goats, rabbits, rats, mice, humans, and others may be immunized by injection with RNAAP or with any fragment or oligopeptide thereof which has immunogenic properties. Depending on the host species, various
20 adjuvants may be used to increase immunological response. Such adjuvants include, but are not limited to, Freund's, mineral gels such as aluminum hydroxide, and surface active substances such as lysolecithin, pluronic polyols, polyanions, peptides, oil emulsions, KLH, and dinitrophenol. Among adjuvants used in humans, BCG (bacilli Calmette-Guerin) and Corynebacterium parvum are especially preferable.

25 It is preferred that the oligopeptides, peptides, or fragments used to induce antibodies to RNAAP have an amino acid sequence consisting of at least about 5 amino acids, and, more preferably, of at least about 10 amino acids. It is also preferable that these oligopeptides, peptides, or fragments are identical to a portion of the amino acid sequence of the natural protein and contain the entire amino acid sequence of a small, naturally occurring molecule. Short stretches of
30 RNAAP amino acids may be fused with those of another protein, such as KLH, and antibodies to the chimeric molecule may be produced.

Monoclonal antibodies to RNAAP may be prepared using any technique which provides for the production of antibody molecules by continuous cell lines in culture. These include, but are not limited to, the hybridoma technique, the human B-cell hybridoma technique, and the EBV-

hybridoma technique. (See, e.g., Kohler, G. et al. (1975) *Nature* 256:495-497; Kozbor, D. et al. (1985) *J. Immunol. Methods* 81:31-42; Cote, R.J. et al. (1983) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 80:2026-2030; and Cole, S.P. et al. (1984) *Mol. Cell Biol.* 62:109-120.)

In addition, techniques developed for the production of "chimeric antibodies," such as the
5 splicing of mouse antibody genes to human antibody genes to obtain a molecule with appropriate antigen specificity and biological activity, can be used. (See, e.g., Morrison, S.L. et al. (1984) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 81:6851-6855; Neuberger, M.S. et al. (1984) *Nature* 312:604-608; and Takeda, S. et al. (1985) *Nature* 314:452-454.) Alternatively, techniques described for the production of single chain antibodies may be adapted, using methods known in the art, to produce
10 RNAAP-specific single chain antibodies. Antibodies with related specificity, but of distinct idiotypic composition, may be generated by chain shuffling from random combinatorial immunoglobulin libraries. (See, e.g., Burton D.R. (1991) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 88:10134-10137.)

Antibodies may also be produced by inducing in vivo production in the lymphocyte population or by screening immunoglobulin libraries or panels of highly specific binding reagents
15 as disclosed in the literature. (See, e.g., Orlandi, R. et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 86: 3833-3837; Winter, G. et al. (1991) *Nature* 349:293-299.)

Antibody fragments which contain specific binding sites for RNAAP may also be generated. For example, such fragments include, but are not limited to, F(ab')₂ fragments produced by pepsin digestion of the antibody molecule and Fab fragments generated by reducing
20 the disulfide bridges of the F(ab')₂ fragments. Alternatively, Fab expression libraries may be constructed to allow rapid and easy identification of monoclonal Fab fragments with the desired specificity. (See, e.g., Huse, W.D. et al. (1989) *Science* 246:1275-1281.)

Various immunoassays may be used for screening to identify antibodies having the desired specificity. Numerous protocols for competitive binding or immunoradiometric assays
25 using either polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies with established specificities are well known in the art. Such immunoassays typically involve the measurement of complex formation between RNAAP and its specific antibody. A two-site, monoclonal-based immunoassay utilizing monoclonal antibodies reactive to two non-interfering RNAAP epitopes is preferred, but a competitive binding assay may also be employed (Pound, supra).

30 Various methods such as Scatchard analysis in conjunction with radioimmunoassay techniques may be used to assess the affinity of antibodies for RNAAP. Affinity is expressed as an association constant, K_a , which is defined as the molar concentration of RNAAP-antibody complex divided by the molar concentrations of free antigen and free antibody under equilibrium conditions. The K_a determined for a preparation of polyclonal antibodies, which are

heterogeneous in their affinities for multiple RNAAP epitopes, represents the average affinity, or avidity, of the antibodies for RNAAP. The K_a determined for a preparation of monoclonal antibodies, which are monospecific for a particular RNAAP epitope, represents a true measure of affinity. High-affinity antibody preparations with K_a ranging from about 10^9 to 10^{12} L/mole are preferred for use in immunoassays in which the RNAAP-antibody complex must withstand rigorous manipulations. Low-affinity antibody preparations with K_a ranging from about 10^6 to 10^7 L/mole are preferred for use in immunopurification and similar procedures which ultimately require dissociation of RNAAP, preferably in active form, from the antibody (Catty, D. (1988) Antibodies. Volume I: A Practical Approach, IRL Press, Washington, DC; Liddell, J. E. and Cryer, A. (1991) A Practical Guide to Monoclonal Antibodies, John Wiley & Sons, New York NY).

The titer and avidity of polyclonal antibody preparations may be further evaluated to determine the quality and suitability of such preparations for certain downstream applications. For example, a polyclonal antibody preparation containing at least 1-2 mg specific antibody/ml, preferably 5-10 mg specific antibody/ml, is preferred for use in procedures requiring precipitation of RNAAP-antibody complexes. Procedures for evaluating antibody specificity, titer, and avidity, and guidelines for antibody quality and usage in various applications, are generally available. (See, e.g., Catty, supra, and Coligan et al. supra.)

In another embodiment of the invention, the polynucleotides encoding RNAAP, or any fragment or complement thereof, may be used for therapeutic purposes. In one aspect, the complement of the polynucleotide encoding RNAAP may be used in situations in which it would be desirable to block the transcription of the mRNA. In particular, cells may be transformed with sequences complementary to polynucleotides encoding RNAAP. Thus, complementary molecules or fragments may be used to modulate RNAAP activity, or to achieve regulation of gene function. Such technology is now well known in the art, and sense or antisense oligonucleotides or larger fragments can be designed from various locations along the coding or control regions of sequences encoding RNAAP.

Expression vectors derived from retroviruses, adenoviruses, or herpes or vaccinia viruses, or from various bacterial plasmids, may be used for delivery of nucleotide sequences to the targeted organ, tissue, or cell population. Methods which are well known to those skilled in the art can be used to construct vectors to express nucleic acid sequences complementary to the polynucleotides encoding RNAAP. (See, e.g., Sambrook, supra; Ausubel, 1995, supra.)

Genes encoding RNAAP can be turned off by transforming a cell or tissue with expression vectors which express high levels of a polynucleotide, or fragment thereof, encoding RNAAP.

Such constructs may be used to introduce untranslatable sense or antisense sequences into a cell. Even in the absence of integration into the DNA, such vectors may continue to transcribe RNA molecules until they are disabled by endogenous nucleases. Transient expression may last for a month or more with a non-replicating vector, and may last even longer if appropriate replication elements are part of the vector system.

As mentioned above, modifications of gene expression can be obtained by designing complementary sequences or antisense molecules (DNA, RNA, or PNA) to the control, 5', or regulatory regions of the gene encoding RNAAP. Oligonucleotides derived from the transcription initiation site, e.g., between about positions -10 and +10 from the start site, are preferred.

10 Similarly, inhibition can be achieved using triple helix base-pairing methodology. Triple helix pairing is useful because it causes inhibition of the ability of the double helix to open sufficiently for the binding of polymerases, transcription factors, or regulatory molecules. Recent therapeutic advances using triplex DNA have been described in the literature. (See, e.g., Gee, J.E. et al. (1994) in Huber, B.E. and B.I. Carr, Molecular and Immunologic Approaches, Futura Publishing, 15 Mt. Kisco NY, pp. 163-177.) A complementary sequence or antisense molecule may also be designed to block translation of mRNA by preventing the transcript from binding to ribosomes.

Ribozymes, enzymatic RNA molecules, may also be used to catalyze the specific cleavage of RNA. The mechanism of ribozyme action involves sequence-specific hybridization of the ribozyme molecule to complementary target RNA, followed by endonucleolytic cleavage. For example, engineered hammerhead motif ribozyme molecules may specifically and efficiently catalyze endonucleolytic cleavage of sequences encoding RNAAP.

Specific ribozyme cleavage sites within any potential RNA target are initially identified by scanning the target molecule for ribozyme cleavage sites, including the following sequences: GUA, GUU, and GUC. Once identified, short RNA sequences of between 15 and 20 ribonucleotides, corresponding to the region of the target gene containing the cleavage site, may be evaluated for secondary structural features which may render the oligonucleotide inoperable. The suitability of candidate targets may also be evaluated by testing accessibility to hybridization with complementary oligonucleotides using ribonuclease protection assays.

Complementary ribonucleic acid molecules and ribozymes of the invention may be prepared by any method known in the art for the synthesis of nucleic acid molecules. These include techniques for chemically synthesizing oligonucleotides such as solid phase phosphoramidite chemical synthesis. Alternatively, RNA molecules may be generated by in vitro and in vivo transcription of DNA sequences encoding RNAAP. Such DNA sequences may be incorporated into a wide variety of vectors with suitable RNA polymerase promoters such as T7 or

SP6. Alternatively, these cDNA constructs that synthesize complementary RNA, constitutively or inducibly, can be introduced into cell lines, cells, or tissues.

RNA molecules may be modified to increase intracellular stability and half-life. Possible modifications include, but are not limited to, the addition of flanking sequences at the 5' and/or 3' ends of the molecule, or the use of phosphorothioate or 2' O-methyl rather than phosphodiesterase linkages within the backbone of the molecule. This concept is inherent in the production of PNAs and can be extended in all of these molecules by the inclusion of nontraditional bases such as inosine, queosine, and wybutosine, as well as acetyl-, methyl-, thio-, and similarly modified forms of adenine, cytidine, guanine, thymine, and uridine which are not as easily recognized by endogenous endonucleases.

Many methods for introducing vectors into cells or tissues are available and equally suitable for use in vivo, in vitro, and ex vivo. For ex vivo therapy, vectors may be introduced into stem cells taken from the patient and clonally propagated for autologous transplant back into that same patient. Delivery by transfection, by liposome injections, or by polycationic amino polymers may be achieved using methods which are well known in the art. (See, e.g., Goldman, C.K. et al. (1997) Nature Biotechnology 15:462-466.)

Any of the therapeutic methods described above may be applied to any subject in need of such therapy, including, for example, mammals such as dogs, cats, cows, horses, rabbits, monkeys, and most preferably, humans.

An additional embodiment of the invention relates to the administration of a pharmaceutical or sterile composition, in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, for any of the therapeutic effects discussed above. Such pharmaceutical compositions may consist of RNAAP, antibodies to RNAAP, and mimetics, agonists, antagonists, or inhibitors of RNAAP. The compositions may be administered alone or in combination with at least one other agent, such as a stabilizing compound, which may be administered in any sterile, biocompatible pharmaceutical carrier including, but not limited to, saline, buffered saline, dextrose, and water. The compositions may be administered to a patient alone, or in combination with other agents, drugs, or hormones.

The pharmaceutical compositions utilized in this invention may be administered by any number of routes including, but not limited to, oral, intravenous, intramuscular, intra-arterial, intramedullary, intrathecal, intraventricular, transdermal, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, intranasal, enteral, topical, sublingual, or rectal means.

In addition to the active ingredients, these pharmaceutical compositions may contain suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers comprising excipients and auxiliaries which

facilitate processing of the active compounds into preparations which can be used pharmaceutically. Further details on techniques for formulation and administration may be found in the latest edition of Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Maack Publishing, Easton PA).

Pharmaceutical compositions for oral administration can be formulated using
5 pharmaceutically acceptable carriers well known in the art in dosages suitable for oral administration. Such carriers enable the pharmaceutical compositions to be formulated as tablets, pills, dragees, capsules, liquids, gels, syrups, slurries, suspensions, and the like, for ingestion by the patient.

Pharmaceutical preparations for oral use can be obtained through combining active
10 compounds with solid excipient and processing the resultant mixture of granules (optionally, after grinding) to obtain tablets or dragee cores. Suitable auxiliaries can be added, if desired. Suitable excipients include carbohydrate or protein fillers, such as sugars, including lactose, sucrose, mannitol, and sorbitol; starch from corn, wheat, rice, potato, or other plants; cellulose, such as methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl-cellulose, or sodium carboxymethylcellulose; gums,
15 including arabic and tragacanth; and proteins, such as gelatin and collagen. If desired, disintegrating or solubilizing agents may be added, such as the cross-linked polyvinyl pyrrolidone, agar, and alginic acid or a salt thereof, such as sodium alginate.

Dragee cores may be used in conjunction with suitable coatings, such as concentrated sugar solutions, which may also contain gum arabic, talc, polyvinylpyrrolidone, carbopol gel,
20 polyethylene glycol, and/or titanium dioxide, lacquer solutions, and suitable organic solvents or solvent mixtures. Dyestuffs or pigments may be added to the tablets or dragee coatings for product identification or to characterize the quantity of active compound, i.e., dosage.

Pharmaceutical preparations which can be used orally include push-fit capsules made of gelatin, as well as soft, sealed capsules made of gelatin and a coating, such as glycerol or sorbitol.
25 Push-fit capsules can contain active ingredients mixed with fillers or binders, such as lactose or starches, lubricants, such as talc or magnesium stearate, and, optionally, stabilizers. In soft capsules, the active compounds may be dissolved or suspended in suitable liquids, such as fatty oils, liquid, or liquid polyethylene glycol with or without stabilizers.

Pharmaceutical formulations suitable for parenteral administration may be formulated in
30 aqueous solutions, preferably in physiologically compatible buffers such as Hanks' solution, Ringer's solution, or physiologically buffered saline. Aqueous injection suspensions may contain substances which increase the viscosity of the suspension, such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sorbitol, or dextran. Additionally, suspensions of the active compounds may be prepared as appropriate oily injection suspensions. Suitable lipophilic solvents or vehicles include

fatty oils, such as sesame oil, or synthetic fatty acid esters, such as ethyl oleate, triglycerides, or liposomes. Non-lipid polycationic amino polymers may also be used for delivery. Optionally, the suspension may also contain suitable stabilizers or agents to increase the solubility of the compounds and allow for the preparation of highly concentrated solutions.

5 For topical or nasal administration, penetrants appropriate to the particular barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art.

The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention may be manufactured in a manner that is known in the art, e.g., by means of conventional mixing, dissolving, granulating, dragee-making, levigating, emulsifying, encapsulating, entrapping, or lyophilizing processes.

10 The pharmaceutical composition may be provided as a salt and can be formed with many acids, including but not limited to, hydrochloric, sulfuric, acetic, lactic, tartaric, malic, and succinic acids. Salts tend to be more soluble in aqueous or other protonic solvents than are the corresponding free base forms. In other cases, the preferred preparation may be a lyophilized powder which may contain any or all of the following: 1 mM to 50 mM histidine, 0.1% to 2%
15 sucrose, and 2% to 7% mannitol, at a pH range of 4.5 to 5.5, that is combined with buffer prior to use.

After pharmaceutical compositions have been prepared, they can be placed in an appropriate container and labeled for treatment of an indicated condition. For administration of RNAAP, such labeling would include amount, frequency, and method of administration.

20 Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for use in the invention include compositions wherein the active ingredients are contained in an effective amount to achieve the intended purpose. The determination of an effective dose is well within the capability of those skilled in the art.

For any compound, the therapeutically effective dose can be estimated initially either in
25 cell culture assays, e.g., of neoplastic cells or in animal models such as mice, rats, rabbits, dogs, or pigs. An animal model may also be used to determine the appropriate concentration range and route of administration. Such information can then be used to determine useful doses and routes for administration in humans.

A therapeutically effective dose refers to that amount of active ingredient, for example
30 RNAAP or fragments thereof, antibodies of RNAAP, and agonists, antagonists or inhibitors of RNAAP, which ameliorates the symptoms or condition. Therapeutic efficacy and toxicity may be determined by standard pharmaceutical procedures in cell cultures or with experimental animals, such as by calculating the ED₅₀ (the dose therapeutically effective in 50% of the population) or LD₅₀ (the dose lethal to 50% of the population) statistics. The dose ratio of toxic to therapeutic

RNAAP under conditions suitable for complex formation. The amount of standard complex formation may be quantitated by various methods, preferably by photometric means. Quantities of RNAAP expressed in subject, control, and disease samples from biopsied tissues are compared with the standard values. Deviation between standard and subject values establishes the

5 parameters for diagnosing disease.

In another embodiment of the invention, the polynucleotides encoding RNAAP may be used for diagnostic purposes. The polynucleotides which may be used include oligonucleotide sequences, complementary RNA and DNA molecules, and PNAs. The polynucleotides may be used to detect and quantitate gene expression in biopsied tissues in which expression of RNAAP may be correlated with disease. The diagnostic assay may be used to determine absence, presence, and excess expression of RNAAP, and to monitor regulation of RNAAP levels during therapeutic intervention.

In one aspect, hybridization with PCR probes which are capable of detecting polynucleotide sequences, including genomic sequences, encoding RNAAP or closely related molecules may be used to identify nucleic acid sequences which encode RNAAP. The specificity of the probe, whether it is made from a highly specific region, e.g., the 5' regulatory region, or from a less specific region, e.g., a conserved motif, and the stringency of the hybridization or amplification (maximal, high, intermediate, or low), will determine whether the probe identifies only naturally occurring sequences encoding RNAAP, allelic variants, or related sequences.

20 Probes may also be used for the detection of related sequences, and should preferably have at least 50% sequence identity to any of the RNAAP encoding sequences. The hybridization probes of the subject invention may be DNA or RNA and may be derived from the sequence of SEQ ID NO:18-34 or from genomic sequences including promoters, enhancers, and introns of the RNAAP gene.

Means for producing specific hybridization probes for DNAs encoding RNAAP include the cloning of polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP or RNAAP derivatives into vectors for the production of mRNA probes. Such vectors are known in the art, are commercially available, and may be used to synthesize RNA probes in vitro by means of the addition of the appropriate RNA polymerases and the appropriate labeled nucleotides. Hybridization probes may be labeled by a variety of reporter groups, for example, by radionuclides such as ^{32}P or ^{35}S , or by enzymatic labels, such as alkaline phosphatase coupled to the probe via avidin/biotin coupling systems, and the like.

Polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP may be used for the diagnosis of disorders associated with expression of RNAAP. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to,

a cell proliferative disorder such as actinic keratosis, arteriosclerosis, atherosclerosis, bursitis, cirrhosis, hepatitis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), myelofibrosis, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria, polycythemia vera, psoriasis, primary thrombocythemia, and cancers including adenocarcinoma, leukemia, lymphoma, melanoma, myeloma, sarcoma, teratocarcinoma, and, in particular, cancers of the adrenal gland, bladder, bone, bone marrow, brain, breast, cervix, gall bladder, ganglia, gastrointestinal tract, heart, kidney, liver, lung, muscle, ovary, pancreas, parathyroid, penis, prostate, salivary glands, skin, spleen, testis, thymus, thyroid, and uterus; an immune/inflammatory disorder such as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), Addison's disease, adult respiratory distress syndrome, allergies, ankylosing spondylitis, amyloidosis, anemia, asthma, atherosclerosis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thyroiditis, autoimmune polyendocrinopathy-candidiasis-ectodermal dystrophy (APECED), bronchitis, cholecystitis, contact dermatitis, Crohn's disease, atopic dermatitis, dermatomyositis, diabetes mellitus, emphysema, episodic lymphopenia with lymphocytotoxins, erythroblastosis fetalis, erythema nodosum, atrophic gastritis, glomerulonephritis, Goodpasture's syndrome, gout, Graves' disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, hypereosinophilia, irritable bowel syndrome, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, myocardial or pericardial inflammation, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, pancreatitis, polymyositis, psoriasis, Reiter's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, Sjögren's syndrome, systemic anaphylaxis, systemic lupus erythematosus, systemic sclerosis, thrombocytopenic purpura, ulcerative colitis, uveitis, Werner syndrome, complications of cancer, hemodialysis, and extracorporeal circulation, viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic, protozoal, and helminthic infections, and trauma; and a reproductive disorder such as disorders of prolactin production; infertility, including tubal disease, ovulatory defects, and endometriosis; disruptions of the estrous cycle, disruptions of the menstrual cycle, polycystic ovary syndrome, ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome, endometrial and ovarian tumors, uterine fibroids, autoimmune disorders, ectopic pregnancies, and teratogenesis; cancer of the breast, fibrocystic breast disease, and galactorrhea; disruptions of spermatogenesis, abnormal sperm physiology, cancer of the testis, cancer of the prostate, benign prostatic hyperplasia, prostatitis, Peyronie's disease, impotence, carcinoma of the male breast, and gynecomastia. The polynucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP may be used in Southern or northern analysis, dot blot, or other membrane-based technologies; in PCR technologies; in dipstick, pin, and multiformat ELISA-like assays; and in microarrays utilizing fluids or tissues from patients to detect altered RNAAP expression. Such qualitative or quantitative methods are well known in the art.

In a particular aspect, the nucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP may be useful in assays that detect the presence of associated disorders, particularly those mentioned above. The

nucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP may be labeled by standard methods and added to a fluid or tissue sample from a patient under conditions suitable for the formation of hybridization complexes. After a suitable incubation period, the sample is washed and the signal is quantitated and compared with a standard value. If the amount of signal in the patient sample is significantly
5 altered in comparison to a control sample then the presence of altered levels of nucleotide sequences encoding RNAAP in the sample indicates the presence of the associated disorder. Such assays may also be used to evaluate the efficacy of a particular therapeutic treatment regimen in animal studies, in clinical trials, or to monitor the treatment of an individual patient.

In order to provide a basis for the diagnosis of a disorder associated with expression of
10 RNAAP, a normal or standard profile for expression is established. This may be accomplished by combining body fluids or cell extracts taken from normal subjects, either animal or human, with a sequence, or a fragment thereof, encoding RNAAP, under conditions suitable for hybridization or amplification. Standard hybridization may be quantified by comparing the values obtained from normal subjects with values from an experiment in which a known amount of a substantially
15 purified polynucleotide is used. Standard values obtained in this manner may be compared with values obtained from samples from patients who are symptomatic for a disorder. Deviation from standard values is used to establish the presence of a disorder.

Once the presence of a disorder is established and a treatment protocol is initiated, hybridization assays may be repeated on a regular basis to determine if the level of expression in
20 the patient begins to approximate that which is observed in the normal subject. The results obtained from successive assays may be used to show the efficacy of treatment over a period ranging from several days to months.

With respect to cancer, the presence of an abnormal amount of transcript (either under- or overexpressed) in biopsied tissue from an individual may indicate a predisposition for the
25 development of the disease, or may provide a means for detecting the disease prior to the appearance of actual clinical symptoms. A more definitive diagnosis of this type may allow health professionals to employ preventative measures or aggressive treatment earlier thereby preventing the development or further progression of the cancer.

Additional diagnostic uses for oligonucleotides designed from the sequences encoding
30 RNAAP may involve the use of PCR. These oligomers may be chemically synthesized, generated enzymatically, or produced in vitro. Oligomers will preferably contain a fragment of a polynucleotide encoding RNAAP, or a fragment of a polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide encoding RNAAP, and will be employed under optimized conditions for identification of a specific gene or condition. Oligomers may also be employed under less

stringent conditions for detection or quantitation of closely related DNA or RNA sequences.

Methods which may also be used to quantify the expression of RNAAP include radiolabeling or biotinylating nucleotides, coamplification of a control nucleic acid, and interpolating results from standard curves. (See, e.g., Melby, P.C. et al. (1993) J. Immunol. Methods 159:235-244; Duplaa, C. et al. (1993) Anal. Biochem. 212:229-236.) The speed of quantitation of multiple samples may be accelerated by running the assay in an ELISA format where the oligomer of interest is presented in various dilutions and a spectrophotometric or colorimetric response gives rapid quantitation.

In further embodiments, oligonucleotides or longer fragments derived from any of the polynucleotide sequences described herein may be used as targets in a microarray. The microarray can be used to monitor the expression level of large numbers of genes simultaneously and to identify genetic variants, mutations, and polymorphisms. This information may be used to determine gene function, to understand the genetic basis of a disorder, to diagnose a disorder, and to develop and monitor the activities of therapeutic agents.

Microarrays may be prepared, used, and analyzed using methods known in the art. (See, e.g., Brennan, T.M. et al. (1995) U.S. Patent No. 5,474,796; Schena, M. et al. (1996) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 93:10614-10619; Baldeschweiler et al. (1995) PCT application WO95/251116; Shalon, D. et al. (1995) PCT application WO95/35505; Heller, R.A. et al. (1997) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 94:2150-2155; and Heller, M.J. et al. (1997) U.S. Patent No. 5,605,662.)

In another embodiment of the invention, nucleic acid sequences encoding RNAAP may be used to generate hybridization probes useful in mapping the naturally occurring genomic sequence. The sequences may be mapped to a particular chromosome, to a specific region of a chromosome, or to artificial chromosome constructions, e.g., human artificial chromosomes (HACs), yeast artificial chromosomes (YACs), bacterial artificial chromosomes (BACs), bacterial Pl constructions, or single chromosome cDNA libraries. (See, e.g., Harrington, J.J. et al. (1997) Nat Genet. 15:345-355; Price, C.M. (1993) Blood Rev. 7:127-134; and Trask, B.J. (1991) Trends Genet. 7:149-154.)

Fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH) may be correlated with other physical chromosome mapping techniques and genetic map data. (See, e.g., Heinz-Ulrich, et al. (1995) in Meyers, supra, pp. 965-968.) Examples of genetic map data can be found in various scientific journals or at the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM) site. Correlation between the location of the gene encoding RNAAP on a physical chromosomal map and a specific disorder, or a predisposition to a specific disorder, may help define the region of DNA associated with that disorder. The nucleotide sequences of the invention may be used to detect differences in gene

sequences among normal, carrier, and affected individuals.

In situ hybridization of chromosomal preparations and physical mapping techniques, such as linkage analysis using established chromosomal markers, may be used for extending genetic maps. Often the placement of a gene on the chromosome of another mammalian species, such as mouse, may reveal associated markers even if the number or arm of a particular human chromosome is not known. New sequences can be assigned to chromosomal arms by physical mapping. This provides valuable information to investigators searching for disease genes using positional cloning or other gene discovery techniques. Once the disease or syndrome has been crudely localized by genetic linkage to a particular genomic region, e.g., ataxia-telangiectasia to 11q22-23, any sequences mapping to that area may represent associated or regulatory genes for further investigation. (See, e.g., Gatti, R.A. et al. (1988) *Nature* 336:577-580.) The nucleotide sequence of the subject invention may also be used to detect differences in the chromosomal location due to translocation, inversion, etc., among normal, carrier, or affected individuals.

In another embodiment of the invention, RNAAP, its catalytic or immunogenic fragments, or oligopeptides thereof can be used for screening libraries of compounds in any of a variety of drug screening techniques. The fragment employed in such screening may be free in solution, affixed to a solid support, borne on a cell surface, or located intracellularly. The formation of binding complexes between RNAAP and the agent being tested may be measured.

Another technique for drug screening provides for high throughput screening of compounds having suitable binding affinity to the protein of interest. (See, e.g., Geysen, et al. (1984) PCT application WO84/03564.) In this method, large numbers of different small test compounds are synthesized on a solid substrate. The test compounds are reacted with RNAAP, or fragments thereof, and washed. Bound RNAAP is then detected by methods well known in the art. Purified RNAAP can also be coated directly onto plates for use in the aforementioned drug screening techniques. Alternatively, non-neutralizing antibodies can be used to capture the peptide and immobilize it on a solid support.

In another embodiment, one may use competitive drug screening assays in which neutralizing antibodies capable of binding RNAAP specifically compete with a test compound for binding RNAAP. In this manner, antibodies can be used to detect the presence of any peptide
30 which shares one or more antigenic determinants with RNAAP.

In additional embodiments, the nucleotide sequences which encode RNAAP may be used in any molecular biology techniques that have yet to be developed, provided the new techniques rely on properties of nucleotide sequences that are currently known, including, but not limited to, such properties as the triplet genetic code and specific base pair interactions.

Without further elaboration, it is believed that one skilled in the art can, using the preceding description, utilize the present invention to its fullest extent. The following preferred specific embodiments are, therefore, to be construed as merely illustrative, and not limitative of the remainder of the disclosure in any way whatsoever.

5 The disclosures of all patents, applications, and publications mentioned above and below, in particular U.S. Ser. No. [Attorney Docket No. PF-0598 P, filed September 22, 1998], U.S. Ser. No. [Attorney Docket No. PF-0600 P, filed September 17, 1998], U.S. Ser. No. [Attorney Docket No. PF-0626 P, filed November 4, 1998], and U.S. Ser. No. 60/128,660, are hereby expressly incorporated by reference.

10 EXAMPLES

I. Construction of cDNA Libraries

RNA was purchased from Clontech or isolated from tissues described in Table 4. Some tissues were homogenized and lysed in guanidinium isothiocyanate, while others were homogenized and lysed in phenol or in a suitable mixture of denaturants, such as TRIZOL (Life
15 Technologies), a monophasic solution of phenol and guanidine isothiocyanate. The resulting lysates were centrifuged over CsCl cushions or extracted with chloroform. RNA was precipitated from the lysates with either isopropanol or sodium acetate and ethanol, or by other routine methods.

Phenol extraction and precipitation of RNA were repeated as necessary to increase RNA
20 purity. In some cases, RNA was treated with DNase. For most libraries, poly(A⁺) RNA was isolated using oligo d(T)-coupled paramagnetic particles (Promega), OLIGOTEX latex particles (QIAGEN, Chatsworth CA), or an OLIGOTEX mRNA purification kit (QIAGEN). Alternatively, RNA was isolated directly from tissue lysates using other RNA isolation kits, e.g., the POLY(A)PURE mRNA purification kit (Ambion, Austin TX).

25 In some cases, Stratagene was provided with RNA and constructed the corresponding cDNA libraries. Otherwise, cDNA was synthesized and cDNA libraries were constructed with the UNIZAP vector system (Stratagene) or SUPERSSCRIPT plasmid system (Life Technologies), using the recommended procedures or similar methods known in the art. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1997, supra, units 5.1-6.6.) Reverse transcription was initiated using oligo d(T) or random
30 primers. Synthetic oligonucleotide adapters were ligated to double stranded cDNA, and the cDNA was digested with the appropriate restriction enzyme or enzymes. For most libraries, the cDNA was size-selected (300-1000 bp) using SEPHACRYL S1000, SEPHAROSE CL2B, or SEPHAROSE CL4B column chromatography (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) or preparative agarose gel electrophoresis. cDNAs were ligated into compatible restriction enzyme sites of the

polylinker of a suitable plasmid, e.g., PBLUESCRIPT plasmid (Stratagene), pSPORT1 plasmid (Life Technologies), or pINCY (Incyte Pharmaceuticals, Palo Alto CA). Recombinant plasmids were transformed into competent *E. coli* cells including XL1-Blue, XL1-BlueMRF, or SOLR from Stratagene or DH5 α , DH10B, or ElectroMAX DH10B from Life Technologies. II.

5 Isolation of cDNA Clones

Plasmids were recovered from host cells by in vivo excision using the UNIZAP vector system (Stratagene) or by cell lysis. Plasmids were purified using at least one of the following: a Magic or WIZARD Minipreps DNA purification system (Promega); an AGTC Miniprep purification kit (Edge Biosystems, Gaithersburg MD); and QIAWELL 8 Plasmid, QIAWELL 8 Plus Plasmid, QIAWELL 8 Ultra Plasmid purification systems or the R.E.A.L. PREP 96 plasmid
10 purification kit from QIAGEN. Following precipitation, plasmids were resuspended in 0.1 ml of distilled water and stored, with or without lyophilization, at 4°C.

Alternatively, plasmid DNA was amplified from host cell lysates using direct link PCR in a high-throughput format (Rao, V.B. (1994) Anal. Biochem. 216:1-14). Host cell lysis and
15 thermal cycling steps were carried out in a single reaction mixture. Samples were processed and stored in 384-well plates, and the concentration of amplified plasmid DNA was quantified fluorometrically using PICOGREEN dye (Molecular Probes, Eugene OR) and a FLUOROSKAN II fluorescence scanner (Labsystems Oy, Helsinki, Finland).

III. Sequencing and Analysis

cDNA sequencing reactions were processed using standard methods or high-throughput
20 instrumentation such as the ABI CATALYST 800 (Perkin-Elmer) thermal cycler or the PTC-200 thermal cycler (MJ Research) in conjunction with the HYDRA microdispenser (Robbins Scientific) or the MICROLAB 2200 (Hamilton) liquid transfer system. cDNA sequencing reactions were prepared using reagents provided by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech or supplied in
25 ABI sequencing kits such as the ABI PRISM BIGDYE Terminator cycle sequencing ready reaction kit (Perkin-Elmer). Electrophoretic separation of cDNA sequencing reactions and detection of labeled polynucleotides were carried out using the MEGABACE 1000 DNA sequencing system (Molecular Dynamics); the ABI PRISM 373 or 377 sequencing system (Perkin-Elmer) in conjunction with standard ABI protocols and base calling software; or other
30 sequence analysis systems known in the art. Reading frames within the cDNA sequences were identified using standard methods (reviewed in Ausubel, 1997, supra, unit 7.7). Some of the cDNA sequences were selected for extension using the techniques disclosed in Example V.

The polynucleotide sequences derived from cDNA sequencing were assembled and analyzed using a combination of software programs which utilize algorithms well known to those

skilled in the art. Table 5 summarizes the tools, programs, and algorithms used and provides applicable descriptions, references, and threshold parameters. The first column of Table 5 shows the tools, programs, and algorithms used. the second column provides brief descriptions thereof, the third column presents appropriate references. all of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety, and the fourth column presents, where applicable, the scores, probability values, and other parameters used to evaluate the strength of a match between two sequences (the higher the score, the greater the homology between two sequences). Sequences were analyzed using MACDNASIS PRO software (Hitachi Software Engineering, South San Francisco CA) and LASERGENE software (DNASTAR). Polynucleotide and polypeptide sequence alignments were generated using the default parameters specified by the clustal algorithm as incorporated into the MEGALIGN multisequence alignment program (DNASTAR), which also calculates the percent identity between aligned sequences.

The polynucleotide sequences were validated by removing vector, linker, and polyA sequences and by masking ambiguous bases, using algorithms and programs based on BLAST, dynamic programming, and dinucleotide nearest neighbor analysis. The sequences were then queried against a selection of public databases such as the GenBank primate, rodent, mammalian, vertebrate, and eukaryote databases, and BLOCKS to acquire annotation using programs based on BLAST, FASTA, and BLIMPS. The sequences were assembled into full length polynucleotide sequences using programs based on Phred, Phrap, and Consed, and were screened for open reading frames using programs based on GeneMark, BLAST, and FASTA. The full length polynucleotide sequences were translated to derive the corresponding full length amino acid sequences, and these full length sequences were subsequently analyzed by querying against databases such as the GenBank databases (described above), SwissProt, BLOCKS, PRINTS, Prosite, and Hidden Markov Model (HMM)-based protein family databases such as PFAM. HMM is a probabilistic approach which analyzes consensus primary structures of gene families. (See, e.g., Eddy, S.R. (1996) Curr. Opin. Str. Biol. 6:361-365.)

The programs described above for the assembly and analysis of full length polynucleotide and amino acid sequences were also used to identify polynucleotide sequence fragments from SEQ ID NO:18-34. Fragments from about 20 to about 4000 nucleotides which are useful in hybridization and amplification technologies were described in The Invention section above.

IV. Northern Analysis

Northern analysis is a laboratory technique used to detect the presence of a transcript of a gene and involves the hybridization of a labeled nucleotide sequence to a membrane on which RNAs from a particular cell type or tissue have been bound. (See, e.g., Sambrook, supra, ch. 7;

Ausubel, 1995, *supra*, ch. 4 and 16.)

Analogous computer techniques applying BLAST were used to search for identical or related molecules in nucleotide databases such as GenBank or LIFESEQ (Incyte Pharmaceuticals). This analysis is much faster than multiple membrane-based hybridizations. In addition, the sensitivity of the computer search can be modified to determine whether any particular match is categorized as exact or similar. The basis of the search is the product score, which is defined as:

% sequence identity x % maximum BLAST score

100

The product score takes into account both the degree of similarity between two sequences and the length of the sequence match. For example, with a product score of 40, the match will be exact within a 1% to 2% error, and, with a product score of 70, the match will be exact. Similar molecules are usually identified by selecting those which show product scores between 15 and 40, although lower scores may identify related molecules.

The results of northern analyses are reported as a percentage distribution of libraries in which the transcript encoding RNAAP occurred. Analysis involved the categorization of cDNA libraries by organ/tissue and disease. The organ/tissue categories included cardiovascular, dermatologic, developmental, endocrine, gastrointestinal, hematopoietic/immune, musculoskeletal, nervous, reproductive, and urologic. The disease/condition categories included cancer, inflammation/trauma, cell proliferation, neurological, and pooled. For each category, the number of libraries expressing the sequence of interest was counted and divided by the total number of libraries across all categories. Percentage values of tissue-specific and disease- or condition-specific expression are reported in Table 3.

V. Extension of RNAAP Encoding Polynucleotides

The full length nucleic acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:18-34 were produced by extension of an appropriate fragment of the full length molecule using oligonucleotide primers designed from this fragment. One primer was synthesized to initiate 5' extension of the known fragment, and the other primer, to initiate 3' extension of the known fragment. The initial primers were designed using OLIGO 4.06 software (National Biosciences), or another appropriate program, to be about 22 to 30 nucleotides in length, to have a GC content of about 50% or more, and to anneal to the target sequence at temperatures of about 68°C to about 72°C. Any stretch of nucleotides which would result in hairpin structures and primer-primer dimerizations was avoided.

Selected human cDNA libraries were used to extend the sequence. If more than one extension was necessary or desired, additional or nested sets of primers were designed.

High fidelity amplification was obtained by PCR using methods well known in the art.

PCR was performed in 96-well plates using the PTC-200 thermal cycler (MJ Research, Inc.). The reaction mix contained DNA template, 200 nmol of each primer, reaction buffer containing Mg^{2+} , $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, and β -mercaptoethanol, Taq DNA polymerase (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech), ELONGASE enzyme (Life Technologies), and Pfu DNA polymerase (Stratagene), with the following parameters for primer pair PCI A and PCI B: Step 1: 94°C, 3 min; Step 2: 94°C, 15 sec; Step 3: 60°C, 1 min; Step 4: 68°C, 2 min; Step 5: Steps 2, 3, and 4 repeated 20 times; Step 6: 68°C, 5 min; Step 7: storage at 4°C. In the alternative, the parameters for primer pair T7 and SK+ were as follows: Step 1: 94°C, 3 min; Step 2: 94°C, 15 sec; Step 3: 57°C, 1 min; Step 4: 68°C, 2 min; Step 5: Steps 2, 3, and 4 repeated 20 times; Step 6: 68°C, 5 min; Step 7: storage at 4°C.

The concentration of DNA in each well was determined by dispensing 100 μ l PICOGREEN quantitation reagent (0.25% (v/v) PICOGREEN; Molecular Probes, Eugene OR) dissolved in 1X TE and 0.5 μ l of undiluted PCR product into each well of an opaque fluorimeter plate (Corning Costar, Acton MA), allowing the DNA to bind to the reagent. The plate was scanned in a Fluoroskan II (Labsystems Oy, Helsinki, Finland) to measure the fluorescence of the sample and to quantify the concentration of DNA. A 5 μ l to 10 μ l aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by electrophoresis on a 1 % agarose mini-gel to determine which reactions were successful in extending the sequence.

The extended nucleotides were desalted and concentrated, transferred to 384-well plates, digested with CviJI cholera virus endonuclease (Molecular Biology Research, Madison WI), and sonicated or sheared prior to religation into pUC 18 vector (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). For shotgun sequencing, the digested nucleotides were separated on low concentration (0.6 to 0.8%) agarose gels, fragments were excised, and agar digested with Agar ACE (Promega). Extended clones were religated using T4 ligase (New England Biolabs, Beverly MA) into pUC 18 vector (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech), treated with Pfu DNA polymerase (Stratagene) to fill-in restriction site overhangs, and transfected into competent *E. coli* cells. Transformed cells were selected on antibiotic-containing media, individual colonies were picked and cultured overnight at 37°C in 384-well plates in LB/2x carb liquid media.

The cells were lysed, and DNA was amplified by PCR using Taq DNA polymerase (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) and Pfu DNA polymerase (Stratagene) with the following parameters: Step 1: 94°C, 3 min; Step 2: 94°C, 15 sec; Step 3: 60°C, 1 min; Step 4: 72°C, 2 min; Step 5: steps 2, 3, and 4 repeated 29 times; Step 6: 72°C, 5 min; Step 7: storage at 4°C. DNA was quantified by PICOGREEN reagent (Molecular Probes) as described above. Samples with low DNA recoveries were reamplified using the same conditions as described above. Samples were diluted with 20% dimethylsulphoxide (1:2, v/v), and sequenced using DYENAMIC energy transfer

sequencing primers and the DYENAMIC DIRECT kit (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) or the ABI PRISM BIGDYE Terminator cycle sequencing ready reaction kit (Perkin-Elmer).

In like manner, the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NO:18-34 are used to obtain 5' regulatory sequences using the procedure above, oligonucleotides designed for such extension, and an appropriate genomic library.

VI. Labeling and Use of Individual Hybridization Probes

Hybridization probes derived from SEQ ID NO:18-34 are employed to screen cDNAs, genomic DNAs, or mRNAs. Although the labeling of oligonucleotides, consisting of about 20 base pairs, is specifically described, essentially the same procedure is used with larger nucleotide fragments. Oligonucleotides are designed using state-of-the-art software such as OLIGO 4.06 software (National Biosciences) and labeled by combining 50 pmol of each oligomer, 250 μ Ci of [γ - 32 P] adenosine triphosphate (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech), and T4 polynucleotide kinase (DuPont NEN, Boston MA). The labeled oligonucleotides are substantially purified using a SEPHADEX G-25 superfine size exclusion dextran bead column (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). An aliquot containing 10^7 counts per minute of the labeled probe is used in a typical membrane-based hybridization analysis of human genomic DNA digested with one of the following endonucleases: Ase I, Bgl II, Eco RI, Pst I, Xba I, or Pvu II (DuPont NEN).

The DNA from each digest is fractionated on a 0.7% agarose gel and transferred to nylon membranes (Nytran Plus, Schleicher & Schuell, Durham NH). Hybridization is carried out for 16 hours at 40°C. To remove nonspecific signals, blots are sequentially washed at room temperature under increasingly stringent conditions up to 0.1 x saline sodium citrate and 0.5% sodium dodecyl sulfate. Hybridization patterns are visualized using autoradiography and compared.

VII. Microarrays

A chemical coupling procedure and an ink jet device can be used to synthesize array elements on the surface of a substrate. (See, e.g., Baldeschweiler, *supra*.) An array analogous to a dot or slot blot may also be used to arrange and link elements to the surface of a substrate using thermal, UV, chemical, or mechanical bonding procedures. A typical array may be produced by hand or using available methods and machines and contain any appropriate number of elements. After hybridization, nonhybridized probes are removed and a scanner used to determine the levels and patterns of fluorescence. The degree of complementarity and the relative abundance of each probe which hybridizes to an element on the microarray may be assessed through analysis of the scanned images.

Full-length cDNAs, Expressed Sequence Tags (ESTs), or fragments thereof may comprise the elements of the microarray. Fragments suitable for hybridization can be selected

using software well known in the art such as LASERGENE software (DNASTAR). Full-length cDNAs, ESTs, or fragments thereof corresponding to one of the nucleotide sequences of the present invention, or selected at random from a cDNA library relevant to the present invention, are arranged on an appropriate substrate, e.g., a glass slide. The cDNA is fixed to the slide using, e.g., UV cross-linking followed by thermal and chemical treatments and subsequent drying. (See, e.g., Schena, M. et al. (1995) Science 270:467-470; Shalon, D. et al. (1996) Genome Res. 6:639-645.) Fluorescent probes are prepared and used for hybridization to the elements on the substrate. The substrate is analyzed by procedures described above.

VIII. Complementary Polynucleotides

Sequences complementary to the RNAAP-encoding sequences, or any parts thereof, are used to detect, decrease, or inhibit expression of naturally occurring RNAAP. Although use of oligonucleotides comprising from about 15 to 30 base pairs is described, essentially the same procedure is used with smaller or with larger sequence fragments. Appropriate oligonucleotides are designed using OLIGO 4.06 software (National Biosciences) and the coding sequence of RNAAP. To inhibit transcription, a complementary oligonucleotide is designed from the most unique 5' sequence and used to prevent promoter binding to the coding sequence. To inhibit translation, a complementary oligonucleotide is designed to prevent ribosomal binding to the RNAAP-encoding transcript.

IX. Expression of RNAAP

Expression and purification of RNAAP is achieved using bacterial or virus-based expression systems. For expression of RNAAP in bacteria, cDNA is subcloned into an appropriate vector containing an antibiotic resistance gene and an inducible promoter that directs high levels of cDNA transcription. Examples of such promoters include, but are not limited to, the *trp-lac* (*tac*) hybrid promoter and the T5 or T7 bacteriophage promoter in conjunction with the *lac* operator regulatory element. Recombinant vectors are transformed into suitable bacterial hosts, e.g., BL21(DE3). Antibiotic resistant bacteria express RNAAP upon induction with isopropyl beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG). Expression of RNAAP in eukaryotic cells is achieved by infecting insect or mammalian cell lines with recombinant Autographica californica nuclear polyhedrosis virus (AcMNPV), commonly known as baculovirus. The nonessential polyhedrin gene of baculovirus is replaced with cDNA encoding RNAAP by either homologous recombination or bacterial-mediated transposition involving transfer plasmid intermediates. Viral infectivity is maintained and the strong polyhedrin promoter drives high levels of cDNA transcription. Recombinant baculovirus is used to infect Spodoptera frugiperda (Sf9) insect cells in most cases, or human hepatocytes, in some cases. Infection of the latter requires additional

genetic modifications to baculovirus. (See Engelhard, E. K. et al. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:3224-3227; Sandig, V. et al. (1996) Hum. Gene Ther. 7:1937-1945.)

In most expression systems, RNAAP is synthesized as a fusion protein with, e.g., glutathione S-transferase (GST) or a peptide epitope tag, such as FLAG or 6-His, permitting rapid, single-step, affinity-based purification of recombinant fusion protein from crude cell lysates. GST, a 26-kilodalton enzyme from Schistosoma japonicum, enables the purification of fusion proteins on immobilized glutathione under conditions that maintain protein activity and antigenicity (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). Following purification, the GST moiety can be proteolytically cleaved from RNAAP at specifically engineered sites. FLAG, an 8-amino acid peptide, enables immunoaffinity purification using commercially available monoclonal and polyclonal anti-FLAG antibodies (Eastman Kodak). 6-His, a stretch of six consecutive histidine residues, enables purification on metal-chelate resins (QIAGEN). Methods for protein expression and purification are discussed in Ausubel (1995, supra, ch 10 and 16). Purified RNAAP obtained by these methods can be used directly in the following activity assay.

15 X. Demonstration of RNAAP Activity

RNAAP activity is demonstrated by a polyacrylamide gel mobility-shift assay. In preparation for this assay, RNAAP is expressed by transforming a mammalian cell line such as COS7, HeLa or CHO with a eukaryotic expression vector containing RNAAP cDNA. The cells are incubated for 48-72 hours after transformation under conditions appropriate for the cell line to allow expression and accumulation of RNAAP. Extracts containing solubilized proteins can be prepared from cells expressing RNAAP by methods well known in the art. Portions of the extract containing RNAAP are added to [³²P]-labeled RNA. Radioactive RNA can be synthesized in vitro by techniques well known in the art. The mixtures are incubated at 25°C in the presence of RNase inhibitors under buffered conditions for 5-10 minutes. After incubation, the samples are analyzed by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis followed by autoradiography. The presence of a band on the autoradiogram indicates the formation of a complex between RNAAP and the radioactive transcript. A band of similar mobility will be absent in samples prepared using control extracts prepared from untransformed cells.

Alternatively, the activity of RNAAP is measured as the level of *in vitro* translation of cap-dependent chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT) and cap-independent luciferase (LUC) reporter constructs (Haghighat, A., et al. (1996) J. Virol. 70:8444-8450). Bicistronic pGEMCAT/EMC/LUC mRNA is used in the assay. The first cistron on this mRNA construct encodes the CAT protein and its translation is cap-dependent. The second cistron encodes luciferase enzyme. The encoded region of the second cistron is preceded by the IRES of

encephalomyocarditis (EMC) virus, making luciferase translation cap independent. Linearized pGEMCAT/EMC/LUC is transcribed in vitro using T7 RNA polymerase in the presence of 10-fold molar excess m⁷GpppG, a cap analog that promotes capping of the RNA product. Rabbit reticulocyte lysate is treated with picornavirus 2A protease. Treatment of the lysate with 2A protease reduces cap-dependent (CAT) translation, but does not inhibit cap-independent (luciferase) translation. Treated lysate is programmed by addition of the capped mRNA in the presence of 20 µCi [³⁵S]methionine. Translation reaction mixtures are incubated for 90 min in the presence of added eIF4E, RNAAP, eIF4E and RNAAP, or with no additions. Translation products are analyzed by SDS-PAGE, acid fixation, and autoradiography. RNAAP activity is calculated based on the expression level of CAT relative to luciferase as compared to control reactions lacking RNAAP.

Alternatively, RNAAP activity is measured as the aminoacylation of a substrate tRNA in the presence of [¹⁴C]serine. RNAAP is incubated with tRNA^{ser} and [¹⁴C]serine in a buffered solution. ¹⁴C-labeled product is separated from free [¹⁴C]serine by chromatography, and the incorporated ¹⁴C is quantified by scintillation counter. The amount of ¹⁴C detected is proportional to the activity of RNAAP in this assay.

Alternatively, RNAAP activity is measured as the methylation of a substrate in the presence of [methyl-³H]-S-adenosylmethionine (SAM). RNAAP is incubated with an appropriate substrate and [methyl-³H]SAM in a buffered solution. ³H-labeled product is separated from free [methyl-³H]SAM by gel electrophoresis, and the incorporated ³H is quantified by fluorography. The amount of ³H detected is proportional to the activity of RNAAP in this assay.

XI. Functional Assays

RNAAP function is assessed by expressing the sequences encoding RNAAP at physiologically elevated levels in mammalian cell culture systems. cDNA is subcloned into a mammalian expression vector containing a strong promoter that drives high levels of cDNA expression. Vectors of choice include pCMV SPORT (Life Technologies) and pCR3.1 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad CA), both of which contain the cytomegalovirus promoter. 5-10 µg of recombinant vector are transiently transfected into a human cell line, preferably of endothelial or hematopoietic origin, using either liposome formulations or electroporation. 1-2 µg of an additional plasmid containing sequences encoding a marker protein are co-transfected. Expression of a marker protein provides a means to distinguish transfected cells from nontransfected cells and is a reliable predictor of cDNA expression from the recombinant vector. Marker proteins of choice include, e.g., Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP; Clontech), CD64, or a CD64-GFP fusion

protein. Flow cytometry (FCM), an automated, laser optics-based technique, is used to identify transfected cells expressing GFP or CD64-GFP and to evaluate the apoptotic state of the cells and other cellular properties. FCM detects and quantifies the uptake of fluorescent molecules that diagnose events preceding or coincident with cell death. These events include changes in nuclear DNA content as measured by staining of DNA with propidium iodide; changes in cell size and granularity as measured by forward light scatter and 90 degree side light scatter; down-regulation of DNA synthesis as measured by decrease in bromodeoxyuridine uptake; alterations in expression of cell surface and intracellular proteins as measured by reactivity with specific antibodies; and alterations in plasma membrane composition as measured by the binding of fluorescein-conjugated Annexin V protein to the cell surface. Methods in flow cytometry are discussed in Ormerod, M. G. (1994) Flow Cytometry, Oxford, New York NY.

The influence of RNAAP on gene expression can be assessed using highly purified populations of cells transfected with sequences encoding RNAAP and either CD64 or CD64-GFP. CD64 and CD64-GFP are expressed on the surface of transfected cells and bind to conserved regions of human immunoglobulin G (IgG). Transfected cells are efficiently separated from nontransfected cells using magnetic beads coated with either human IgG or antibody against CD64 (DYNAL, Lake Success NY). mRNA can be purified from the cells using methods well known by those of skill in the art. Expression of mRNA encoding RNAAP and other genes of interest can be analyzed by northern analysis or microarray techniques.

20 XII. Production of RNAAP Specific Antibodies

RNAAP substantially purified using polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE; see, e.g., Harrington, M.G. (1990) *Methods Enzymol.* 182:488-495), or other purification techniques, is used to immunize rabbits and to produce antibodies using standard protocols.

Alternatively, the RNAAP amino acid sequence is analyzed using LASERGENE
25 software (DNASTAR) to determine regions of high immunogenicity, and a corresponding
oligopeptide is synthesized and used to raise antibodies by means known to those of skill in the
art. Methods for selection of appropriate epitopes, such as those near the C-terminus or in
hydrophilic regions are well described in the art. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1995, supra, ch. 11.)

Typically, oligopeptides 15 residues in length are synthesized using an ABI 431A peptide synthesizer (Perkin-Elmer) using fmoc-chemistry and coupled to KLH (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis MO) by reaction with N-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (MBS) to increase immunogenicity. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1995, supra.) Rabbits are immunized with the oligopeptide-KLH complex in complete Freund's adjuvant. Resulting antisera are tested for antipeptide activity by, for example, binding the peptide to plastic, blocking with 1% BSA, reacting with rabbit

antisera, washing, and reacting with radio-iodinated goat anti-rabbit IgG.

XIII. Purification of Naturally Occurring RNAAP Using Specific Antibodies

Naturally occurring or recombinant RNAAP is substantially purified by immunoaffinity chromatography using antibodies specific for RNAAP. An immunoaffinity column is constructed
5 by covalently coupling anti-RNAAP antibody to an activated chromatographic resin, such as CNBr-activated SEPHAROSE (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). After the coupling, the resin is blocked and washed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Media containing RNAAP are passed over the immunoaffinity column, and the column is washed under conditions that allow the preferential absorbance of RNAAP (e.g., high ionic
10 strength buffers in the presence of detergent). The column is eluted under conditions that disrupt antibody/RNAAP binding (e.g., a buffer of pH 2 to pH 3, or a high concentration of a chaotrope, such as urea or thiocyanate ion), and RNAAP is collected.

XIV. Identification of Molecules Which Interact with RNAAP

RNAAP, or biologically active fragments thereof, are labeled with ¹²⁵I Bolton-Hunter
15 reagent. (See, e.g., Bolton et al. (1973) Biochem. J. 133:529.) Candidate molecules previously arrayed in the wells of a multi-well plate are incubated with the labeled RNAAP, washed, and any wells with labeled RNAAP complex are assayed. Data obtained using different concentrations of RNAAP are used to calculate values for the number, affinity, and association of RNAAP with the candidate molecules.

20 Various modifications and variations of the described methods and systems of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. Although the invention has been described in connection with specific preferred embodiments, it should be understood that the invention as claimed should not be unduly limited to such specific embodiments. Indeed, various modifications of the described modes for carrying
25 out the invention which are obvious to those skilled in molecular biology or related fields are intended to be within the scope of the following claims.

Table 1

Protein SEQ ID NO:	Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Clone ID	Library	Fragments
1	18	399781	PITUNOT02	399781H1 and 399781X12 (PITUNOT02), 1271965F6 (TESTTUT02), 790764R1 and 792124R1 (PROSTUT03), and 405935R1 (EOSIHET02)
2	19	1252206	LUNGFET03	1232931T6 (LUNGFET03), 3109423H1 (BRSTTUT15), 3113355H1 (BRSTNOT17), 3330287H1 (HEAONOT04), 3269650H1 (BRAINOT20), 1662596H1 (BRSTNOT09), 2655078H1 (THYMNOT04), 2266829H1 and 2266829R6 (UTRSNOT02), 4333545H1 (KIDCTMT01), 1595462F6 (BRAINOT14), 078192R1 and 078192F1 (SYNORAB01), 4836680H1 (BRAUNOT01), 1252206F6 (LUNGFET03), 1638473F6 (UTRSNOT06), SAJA00661R1, SAJA00355F1, SAJA01106R1, SAJA01874F1, and SAJA02468F1
3	20	2950994	KIDNFET01	1968448H1 (BRSTNOT04), 1435425T6 (PANCNOT08), 808869T1 (LUNGNOT04), 2795721F6 (NPOLNOT01), and 2950994H1 (KIDNFET01)
4	21	3461657	293TF201	2606248F6 (LUNGTUT07), 2052041X301D1 (LIVRFET02), 4341820F6 (BRAUNOT02), 2789769F6 (COLNTUT16), 3461657H1 (293TF2T01), SBUA03574D1 and SBUA00296D1
5	22	053076	FIBRNOT01	053076H1 (FIBRNOT01), 534171F1 (BRAINOT03), 4717220H1 (BRAIHCT02)
6	23	1292379	PGANNOT03	458715T6 (KERANOT01), 850050T1 (NGANNOT01), 1292379F1, 1292379H1 and 1292379T1 (PGANNOT03), 1398840F6 and 1398840T6 (BRAITUT08), 3447383H2 (BLADNOT09), 3780263H1 (BRSTNOT27)
7	24	1437783	PANCNOT08	117781F1 (KIDNNOT01), 1352071F1 (LATRTUT02), 1437783H1 (PANCNOT08), 2527706H1 (GBLANOT02), 4567705H1 (HELATXT01)
8	25	1557635	BLADTUT04	077627R1 (SYNORAB01), 1557635F1 and 1557635H1 (BLADTUT04), 1568446F1 (UTRSNOT05), 1901128F6 (BLADTUT06), 2013353T6 (TESTNOT03), 2098109H1 (BRAITUT02), 2568583T6 (HIPOAZT01), 3866538H1 (BRAITUT07)

Table 1 (cont.)

Protein SEQ ID NO:	Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Clone ID	Library	Fragments
9	26	2049352	LIVRFET02	078075R1 (SYNORAB01), 994247R6 (COLNNOT11), 1334674F6 (COLNNOT13), 2049352F6 and 2049352H1 (LIVRFET02), 3219182H1 (COLNNON03)
10	27	2231663	PROSNOT16	307827H1 (HEARNOT01), 1455948F1 and 1455948R1 (COLNFET02), 2231663H1 (PROSNOT16), 3779128H1 (BRSTNOT27)
11	28	2604449	LUNGTUT07	606296R6 (BRSTTUT01), 1718568T6 (BLADNOT06), 2604449F6 and 2604449H1 (LUNGTUT07), 5093027F6 (UTRSTMR01), SAEA01050F1, SAEA01365F1, SAEC11108F1, SBKA00681F1
12	29	2604993	LUNGTUT07	1441072F6 and 1441072T6 (THYRNOT03), 2604993H1 (LUNGTUT07), 3389190T6 (LUNGTUT17), SBIA05937D1, SBIA11687D1, SBIA04881D1, SBIA03937D1, SBIA00985D1
13	30	2879070	UTRSTUT05	1458387F7, 1458387R1, and 1458387T6 (COLNFET02), 1858014X13C1 and 1858014X14C1 (PROSNOT18), 2595610H1 (OVRTUT02), 2879070H1 (UTRSTUT05)
14	31	3093845	BRSTNOT19	134421R1 (BMARNOT02), 979683R6 (TONGTUT01), 3093845F6 and 3093845H1 (BRSTNOT19), 3294785F6 (TLYJINT01)
15	32	3685685	HEAANOT01	1556450F1 (BLADTUT04), 1615712T6 (BRAITUT12), 2041291R6 (HIPONON02), 2448460F6 (THPINOT03), 3685685H1 (HEAANOT01), 3954790H1 (PONSAT01), 4918977H2 (TESTNOT11)
16	33	3825977	BRAINOT23	2373839T6 and 2375912X302D1 (ISLTNOT01), 3825977H1 (BRAINOT23), 3882790H1 (SPLNNOT11), SBIA02579D1, SBIA02994D1, SBIA10082D1, SBIA06183D1, SBIA05526D1, SBIA02807D1
17	34	4941262	BRAIFEN03	4941262F6 and 4941262H1 (BRAIFEN03)

Table 2

Polypeptide SEQ ID NO:	Amino Acid Residues	Potential Phosphorylation Sites	Potential Glycosylation on Sites	Signature Sequence	Identification	Analytical Methods
1	216	S129, T21, S108, T161, T178, T47, S107, S143, T150, S185, Y116, Y138	N9	RNA recognition motif: L12-I83 RNA-binding region RNP-1 R51 signature: R1- D60, L12-F30	GI 2961149 Human TLS- associated protein, TASR	Motifs BLAST PFAM BLOCKS
2	1584	S740, S888, S965, S257, T294, S304, S317, S366, S370, T517, S542, S582, S584, S598, T615, S718, S865, T1058, S1085, T1115, S1155, S1164, T1190, S1209, S1217, S1227, S1264, S1290, S1333, S1381, S1416, S1421, S1501, T1503, S1550, S30, T141, S304, S362, S456, S491, T507, S611, S700, S718, S735, T817, S965, S985, S1121, T1126, T1144, S1155, T1175, S1200, S1286, S1333, S1367, S1381, S1416, T1480, S1550	N1162, N1188, N1195	Leucine zipper pattern: L1513- L1534 Wilm's tumor protein: G80- P94, S412-H426	GI 2660712 Human eIF4G1	Motifs BLAST PRINTS

Table 2 (cont.)

Seq ID NO:	Amino Acid Residues	Potential Phosphorylation Sites	Potential Glycosylation Sites	Signature Sequence	Identification	Analytical Methods
3	166	S78, T135	N72, N99		GI 2440051 seryl-tRNA synthetase	BLAST
4	531	S27, T58, S59, S157, S242, S339, S428, S430, S242, T439, S475, S492, Y89	N155, N522, N523	C2H2 type zinc finger motif: C50-H71 N-methyltransferase cofactor-binding motif: V259-A273	GI 1808648 Human arginine methyltransferase	Motifs BLAST BLOCKS PFAM PRINTS
5	148	S32 S38 S47 T69 T141 Y60		A31-D115 (Ribosomal L27 protein) M1-A27 (Signal peptide)	ribosomal protein L27 g 642605	Motifs BLAST Pfam HMM SPScan
6	317	S20 S40 S106 S110 S117 T135 T142 S144 T260 S302 S6 S10 T134 S215 S281	N148 N208 N228		pre-ribosomal particle assembly protein g 2398808	Motifs BLAST
7	278	T10 S83 S56 T57 T61 T121 S202 S244 T13 T68 T156 T192 S224 Y251	N71 N120		translation initiation factor 3 (infC) g 3844793	Motifs BLAST

Table 2 (cont.)

Seq ID NO:	Amino Acid Residues	Potential Phosphorylation Sites	Potential Glycosylation Sites	Signature Sequence	Identification	Analytical Methods
8	586	T29 T81 T261 S512 T4 S21 T29 S97 S227 T229 S235 T348 S371 S417 T475 T485 S511 S513 S515 S554 T562 S77 T127 T194 S206 S215 S256 S356 S479 Y274 Y297 Y309	N427		Similar to mRNA splicing factor g 3878326	Motifs BLAST
9	384	T32 S167 T327 T339 T349 S28 T148 T311 S372 Y13 Y19 Y86 Y277	N229	H257-M296 (Cytidine and deoxycytidylate deaminases zinc-binding region signature)	phorbolin I protein kinase C associated protein g 436941	Motifs BLAST
10	325	T61 S298 S320 S49 T53 S116	N163	R94-G302 (L1P family ribosomal proteins)	Ribonucleotide reductase subunit M2 g 200768	Motifs BLAST Pfam

Table 2 (cont.)

Seq ID NO:	Amino Acid Residues	Potential Phosphorylation Sites	Potential glycosylation sites	Signature Sequence	Identification	Analytical Methods
11	351	S39 T182 S329 S18 S29 T65 T182 S225 S38 Y87	N23 N314	E131-I146 (Ribonucleotide reductase small subunit) P46-D100, F123-D148, F198-F239, V251-R292 (Ribonucleotide reductase) W69-Y331 (Ribonucleotide reductase) R186-W207 (transmembrane)	Ribonucleotide reductase subunit M2 g 200468	Motifs BLAST Pfam BLOCKS HMM
12	681	T68 S79 S135 T160 S179 S201 S216 S237 T301 T312 T338 T363 T405 T457 S524 S123	N89 N600 N623	V227-V297, V328- L401, I447-V520 (RNA recognition motif) M1-K22 (signal peptide)	Similarity to Human heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleopro- tein(hnRNP) F protein g 3880146	Motifs BLAST Pfam SPScan
13	408	S3 S45 S68 T212 T236 S248 T145 T279 Y193	N206	I121-M144 (transmembrane)	RNA helicase A g2880057	Motifs BLAST HMM

Table 2 (cont.)

Seq ID NO:	Amino Acid Residues	Potential Phosphorylation Sites	Potential glycosylation sites	Signature Sequence	Identification	Analytical Methods
14	351	S126 S5 T7 S75 S108 S140 S195 S314 S339 S59 S122 S254 S300 S344 Y23	N113 N202	K36-Y43 (Eukaryotic putative RNA-binding region RNP-1 signature) I2-L38, V127-V194, L269-V334 (RNA recognition motif)	Hel-N2 RNA binding protein g905387	Motifs BLAST Pfam
15	472	S69 S116 S346 S89 S237 S239 S301 T303 S358 S4 T39 S124 T176	N219 N248	102-130, 178-204 (glycosyl hydrolase)	Human RNA binding protein g 2804465	Motifs BLAST PRINTS
16	616	S154 S368 S376 T570 S14 S44 T53 S83 S94 S466		V18-V89 (RNA recognition motif) F36-R85 (eukaryotic RNA-binding RNP-1)	Cleavage stimulating factor g 181139	Motifs BLAST Pfam ProfilesScan
17	112	T42 Y69		G74-P95 (ribosomal protein L35Ae signature) L12-F106 (ribosomal protein L35Ae signature)	g4392 ribosomal protein L37a	Motifs BLAST Pfam BLOCKS

Table 3

Polynucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Selected Fragment (Nucleotide number)	Tissue Expression (Fraction of Total)	Disease or Condition (Fraction of Total)	Vector
18	30-90	Nervous (0.191) Reproductive (0.309)	Cell proliferation (0.510) Inflammation and Immune Response (0.290)	PSPORT1
19	1137-1196	Nervous (0.245) Reproductive (0.216)	Cell proliferation (0.560) Inflammation and Immune Response (0.230)	pINCY
20	454-510	Reproductive (0.263) Nervous (0.211)	Cancer (0.580) Inflammation and Immune Response (0.160)	pINCY
21	31-81	Nervous (0.357) Gastrointestinal (0.179) Reproductive (0.143)	Cancer (0.610) Inflammation and Immune Response (0.210)	pINCY
22	1-46	Reproductive (0.247) Nervous (0.183) Gastrointestinal (0.118)	Cell proliferation (0.613) Inflammation (0.290)	PBLUESCRIPT
23	273-317	Reproductive (0.256) Nervous (0.209)	Cell proliferation (0.465) Inflammation (0.256)	pINCY
24	434-478	Gastrointestinal (0.244) Nervous (0.186) Reproductive (0.163)	Cell proliferation (0.535) Inflammation (0.361)	pINCY
25	174-218	Reproductive (0.230) Nervous (0.216) Cardiovascular (0.122)	Cell proliferation (0.554) Inflammation (0.311)	pINCY

26	489-533	Reproductive (0.270) Hematopoietic/Immune (0.243) Nervous (0.162)	Cell proliferation (0.676) Inflammation (0.405)	pINCY
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Table 3 (cont.)

Polynucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Selected Fragment (Nucleotide number)	Tissue Expression (Fraction of Total)	Disease or Condition (Fraction of Total)	Vector
27	199-252	Reproductive (0.308) Cardiovascular (0.205)	Cell proliferation (0.770) Inflammation (0.128)	pINCY
28	110-154	Cardiovascular (0.289) Nervous (0.184) Reproductive (0.158)	Cell proliferation (0.685) Inflammation (0.158)	pINCY
29	326-370	Reproductive (0.400) Gastrointestinal (0.240) Cardiovascular (0.120)	Cell proliferation (0.760) Inflammation (0.240)	pINCY
30	516-563	Reproductive (0.415) Nervous (0.151) Hematopoietic/Immune (0.113)	Cell proliferation (0.566) Inflammation (0.320)	pINCY
31	272-316	Hematopoietic/Immune (0.286) Gastrointestinal (0.214) Reproductive (0.214)	Inflammation (0.714) Cell proliferation (0.495)	pINCY
32	119-163	Reproductive (0.328) Hematopoietic/Immune (0.219) Nervous (0.156)	Cell proliferation (0.672) Inflammation (0.313)	pINCY
33	812-856	Gastrointestinal (0.208) Hematopoietic/Immune (0.208) Developmental (0.167) Nervous (0.167)	Inflammation (0.541) Cell proliferation (0.458)	pINCY
34	42-86	Nervous (1.000)	Cell proliferation (1.000)	pINCY

Table 4

Polynucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
18	PITUNOT02	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from the pituitary glands removed from a pool of 87 male and female donors, 15 to 75 years old (RNA acquired from Clontech, CLON 6584-1).
19	LUNGFET03	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from lung tissue removed from a Caucasian female fetus, who died at 20 weeks' gestation. Family history included bronchitis.
20	KIDNFET01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from kidney tissue removed from a Caucasian female fetus, who died at 17 weeks' gestation from anencephalus.
21	293TF201	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from a treated, transformed embryonal cell line (293-EBNA) derived from kidney epithelial tissue. The cells were treated with 5-aza-2'-deoxycytidine (5AZA) and transformed with adenovirus 5 DNA.
22	FIBRNOT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from the WI38 lung fibroblast cell line, which was derived from a 3-month-old Caucasian female fetus. 2×10^6 primary clones were then amplified to stabilize the library for long-term storage.
23	PGANNOT03	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from paraganglionic tumor tissue removed from the intra-abdominal region of a 46-year-old Caucasian male during exploratory laparotomy. Pathology indicated a benign paraganglioma and was associated with a grade 2 renal cell carcinoma, clear cell type, which did not penetrate the capsule.
24	PANCNOT08	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from pancreatic tissue removed from a 65-year-old Caucasian female during radical subtotal pancreatectomy. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated an invasive grade 2 adenocarcinoma. Patient history included type II diabetes, osteoarthritis, cardiovascular disease, benign neoplasm in the large bowel, and a cataract. Family history included cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes, and stomach cancer.

Table 4 (cont.)

Polynucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
25	BLADTUT04	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from bladder tumor tissue removed from a 60-year-old Caucasian male during a radical cystectomy, prostatectomy, and vasectomy. Pathology indicated grade 3 transitional cell carcinoma in the left bladder wall. Carcinoma in-situ was identified in the dome and trigone. Patient history included tobacco use. Family history included type I diabetes, malignant neoplasm of the stomach, atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, and an acute myocardial infarction.
26	LIVRFET02	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from liver tissue removed from a Caucasian female fetus, who died at 20 weeks' gestation. Family history included bronchitis.
27	PROSNOT16	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from diseased prostate tissue removed from a 68-year-old Caucasian male during a radical prostatectomy. Pathology indicated adenofibromatous hyperplasia. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated an adenocarcinoma (Gleason grade 3+4). The patient presented with elevated prostate specific antigen (PSA) and was diagnosed with myasthenia gravis. Patient history included osteoarthritis, and type II diabetes. Family history included benign hypertension, acute myocardial infarction, hyperlipidemia, and arteriosclerotic coronary artery disease.
28	LUNGTUT07	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from lung tumor tissue removed from the upper lobe of a 50-year-old Caucasian male during segmental lung resection. Pathology indicated an invasive grade 4 squamous cell adenocarcinoma. Patient history included tobacco use. Family history included skin cancer.
29	LUNGTUT07	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from lung tumor tissue removed from the upper lobe of a 50-year-old Caucasian male during segmental lung resection. Pathology indicated an invasive grade 4 squamous cell adenocarcinoma. Patient history included tobacco use. Family history included skin cancer.

Table 4 (cont.)

Polynucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
30	UTRSTUT05	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from uterine tumor tissue removed from a 41-year-old Caucasian female during a vaginal hysterectomy with dilation and curettage. Pathology indicated uterine leiomyoma. The endometrium was secretory and contained fragments of endometrial polyps. Benign endo- and ectocervical mucosa were identified in the endocervix. Patient history included a ventral hernia and a benign ovarian neoplasm.
31	BRSTNOT19	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from breast tissue removed from a 67-year-old Caucasian female during a unilateral extended simple mastectomy. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated residual invasive lobular carcinoma. The focus of residual invasive carcinoma was positive for both estrogen and progesterone. Patient history included depressive disorder and benign large bowel neoplasm. Family history included cerebrovascular disease, benign hypertension, congestive heart failure, and lung cancer.
32	HEAANOT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from right coronary and right circumflex coronary artery tissue removed from the explanted heart of a 46-year-old Caucasian male during a heart transplantation. Patient history included myocardial infarction from total occlusion of the left anterior descending coronary artery, atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, hyperlipidemia, myocardial ischemia, dilated cardiomyopathy, left ventricular dysfunction, and tobacco use. Family history included atherosclerotic coronary artery disease.

Table 4 (cont.)

Polynucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
33	BRAINOT23	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from right temporal lobe tissue removed from a 45-year-old Black male during a brain lobectomy. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumor of the right temporal lobe. The right temporal region dura was consistent with an alci-fying pseudotumor of the neuraxis. The patient presented with convulsive intractable epilepsy, partial epilepsy, and memory disturbance. Patient history included obesity, meningitis, backache, unspecified sleep apnea, acute stress reaction, acquired knee deformity, and chronic sinusitis. Family history included obesity, benign hypertension, cirrhosis of the liver, alcohol abuse, hyperlipidemia, cerebrovascular disease, and type II diabetes.
34	BRAIFEN03	This normalized fetal brain tissue library was constructed from 3.26 million independent clones from a fetal brain library. Starting RNA was made from brain tissue removed from a Caucasian male fetus with a hypoplastic left heart stillborn after 23 weeks' gestation. The library was normalized in two rounds (with 48 hour reannealing hybridizations) using conditions adapted from Soares et al. and Bonaldo et al.

Table 5

Program	Description	Reference	Parameter Threshold
ABI FACTURA	A program that removes vector sequences and masks ambiguous bases in nucleic acid sequences.	Perkin-Elmer Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA.	
ABI/PARACEL FDF	A Fast Data Finder useful in comparing and annotating amino acid or nucleic acid sequences.	Perkin-Elmer Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA; Paracel Inc., Pasadena, CA.	Mismatch <50%
ABI AutoAssembler	A program that assembles nucleic acid sequences.	Perkin-Elmer Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA.	
BLAST	A Basic Local Alignment Search Tool useful in sequence similarity search for amino acid and nucleic acid sequences. BLAST includes five functions: blastp, blastn, blastx, tblastn, and tblastx.	Altschul, S.F. et al. (1990) J. Mol. Biol. 215:403-410; Altschul, S.F. et al. (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25: 3389-3402.	ESTs: Probability value= 1.0E-8 or less Full Length sequences: Probability value= 1.0E-10 or less
FASTA	A Pearson and Lipman algorithm that searches for similarity between a query sequence and a group of sequences of the same type. FASTA comprises at least five functions: fasta, tfasta, fastx, tfastx, and ssearch.	Pearson, W.R. and D.J. Lipman (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 85:2444-2448; Pearson, W.R. (1990) Methods Enzymol. 183: 63-98; and Smith, T.F. and M. S. Waterman (1981) Adv. Appl. Math. 2:482-489.	ESTs: fasta E. value= 1.0E-6 Assembled ESTs: fasta Identity - 95% or greater and Match length=200 bases or greater; fastx E. value= 1.0E-8 or less Full Length sequences: fastx score=100 or greater
BLIMPS	A BLOCKS IMPROVED Searcher that matches a sequence against those in BLOCKS and PRINTS databases to search for gene families, sequence homology, and structural fingerprint regions.	Henikoff, S. and J.G. Henikoff, Nucl. Acid Res., 19:6565-72, 1991. J.G. Henikoff and S. Henikoff (1996) Methods Enzymol. 266:88-105; and Attwood, T.K. et al. (1997) J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci. 37: 417-424.	Score=1000 or greater; Ratio of Score/Strength = 0.75 or larger; and Probability value= 1.0E-3 or less
PFAM	A Hidden Markov Models-based application useful for protein family search.	Krogh, A. et al. (1994) J. Mol. Biol., 235:1501-1531; Sonnhammer, E.L.L. et al. (1988) Nucleic Acids Res. 26:320-322.	Score=10-50 bits, depending on individual protein families

Table 5 cont.

Program	Description	Reference	Parameter Threshold
ProfileScan	An algorithm that searches for structural and sequence motifs in protein sequences that match sequence patterns defined in Prosite.	Gribskov, M. et al. (1988) CABIOS 4:61-66; Gribskov, et al. (1989) Methods Enzymol. 183:146-159; Bairoch, A. et al. (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25: 217-221.	Score = 4.0 or greater
Phred	A base-calling algorithm that examines automated sequencer traces with high sensitivity and probability.	Ewing, B. et al. (1998) Genome Res. 8:175-185; Ewing, B. and P. Green (1998) Genome Res. 8:186-194.	
Phrap	A Phils Revised Assembly Program including SWAT and CrossMatch, programs based on efficient implementation of the Smith-Waterman algorithm, useful in searching sequence homology and assembling DNA sequences.	Smith, T.F. and M. S. Waterman (1981) Adv. Appl. Math. 2:482-489; Smith, T.F. and M. S. Waterman (1981) J. Mol. Biol. 147:195-197; and Green, P., University of Washington, Seattle, WA.	Score = 120 or greater; Match length = 56 or greater
Consed	A graphical tool for viewing and editing Phrap assemblies	Gordon, D. et al. (1998) Genome Res. 8:195-202.	
SPScan	A weight matrix analysis program that scans protein sequences for the presence of secretory signal peptides.	Nielson, H. et al. (1997) Protein Engineering 10:1-6; Claverie, J.M. and S. Audic (1997) CABIOS 12: 431-439.	Score = 5 or greater
Motifs	A program that searches amino acid sequences for patterns that matched those defined in Prosite.	Bairoch et al. <u>supra</u> ; Wisconsin Package Program Manual, version 9, page M51-59, Genetics Computer Group, Madison, WI.	